

# The Florida Mason



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**Grand Lodge Officers**  
2015 - 2016

**GRAND MASTER**  
M.: W.: Steven P. Boring  
(DeLand)

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**  
R.: W.: Stanley L. Hudson  
(Port St. Lucie)

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN**  
R.: W.: Richard G. Hoover  
(St. Petersburg)

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**  
R.: W.: John E. Karroum,  
(Boynton Beach)

**GRAND TREASURER**  
M.: W.: Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M.  
(Orange Park)

**GRAND SECRETARY**  
M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M.  
(Jacksonville)

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of The Florida Mason  
and  
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**M.: W.: Steven P. Boring,**  
**Grand Master**

All of our Grand Lodge Appointments - Appointed Grand Lodge Officers, District Deputy Grand Masters, District Instructors, and State and Zone Chairmen, have given their utmost to exceed my expectations. They have gone the extra step and completed every task assigned to them. Our 2015-2016 TEAM has done an outstanding job because the Brotherhood has been supportive of all our programs.

I want to give a special thank you to all the ladies out there who have supported the Brothers in their Masonic Work. Without the support

***"Remembering The Past - Embracing The Future"***

## ***A Message From The Grand Master***

What a GREAT year it has been so far! When I was installed as your Grand Master five months ago, I never dreamed that we would have experienced such wonderful times. The attendance at our District Meetings has been up and at every meeting the donations have been excellent. The generous courtesies extended to me have been extraordinary and greatly appreciated.

of the ladies we could not have the smooth running year that we are experiencing.

Another important and encouraging issue this year is the support I have seen being expressed for our YOUTH. The impressions we make upon our Masonic Youth Groups will help to shape the future of our Fraternity. I encourage all Brothers to continue to enhance the impressions we make upon the youth; encourage the growth of their organizations; and assist when possible in their programs.

As I said earlier, "What a Great Year It Has Been So Far!!" If this trend continues for the second half of our year, all I can say is "That will be AWESOME!"

May God watch over our military where ever they are, May God Bless each of you and our Fraternity, and May God Bless The United States Of America.

Fraternally,  
M.: W.: Steven P. Boring,  
Grand Master of Masons in Florida



**R.: W.: Stanley L. Hudson,**  
**Deputy Grand Warden**

I have spent the last couple of years working towards and talking about changing the face of our Fraternity. Yes, we need to change how we do business and yes, we have Lodges that need to Merge or Consolidate and no, this is not a Band-Aid, but a reality. We need to cut overhead both at the Corporate and the local Lodge Level. To do this we need to change the districts and zone structures.

As summer comes to an end and the holiday season is around the corner I would like to thank each and every one of you that have touched my life. It is the friendships of the many Brothers in this Fraternity that continue to give me the strength and courage to keep serving the Fraternity. Our work here is not done; nor do I think it will ever be.

We as a Fraternity need to downsize or "right size" for our current membership levels.

Moving forward there will be legislation to change the number of districts and zones. This will affect every district and zone throughout the state. It is our plan to consolidate districts and zones so that they will be as relatively balanced in regards to Membership and travel distances as possible.

I have heard many of your suggestions and have incorporated some of them into our plans. As always, I am open to suggestions as your input is important for our Fraternity to move into the 21st century. It is my hope that all of you will have a wonderful Holiday Season. Looking forward to seeing you around the state.

Stanley L Hudson  
Deputy Grand Master  
[Shudson34953@gmail.com](mailto:Shudson34953@gmail.com)  
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## ***A Message From The Deputy Grand Master***



**R.: W.: Richard G. Hoover,**  
**Senior Grand Warden**

As most know, we have all been busy with the Grand Master's official visits. It's that time of year. We have been to the Southeastern Conference in Mississippi to meet with our counterparts and discuss various topics there. We all have the same basic concerns, questions, and problems. It is finding the right answers and the best way to serve

*My Brothers,*

As I contemplate just what to say in these articles, many thoughts come to my mind. Do I give you some type of Masonic Education thoughts, wise words from Albert Pike, keep reiterating the same message? What does the craft want to hear from their Grand Lodge Officers? I guess the craft wants to keep abreast of what their Grand Lodge Officers are doing and what are our plans for our Fraternity's future.

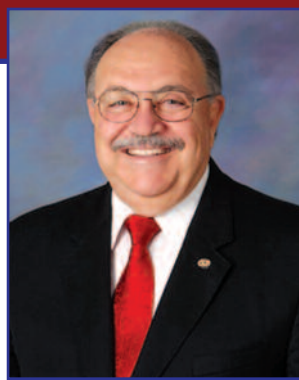
the craft in our various areas. Sometimes the craft will give us their ideas, and concerns. At other times, they wait for us to make those decisions. On this, I still say "we want to hear from you." We can help, aid, and assist, we don't want to do it for you, or tell you this is what you will do.

Mergers and consolidations still need to be a topic of discussion and talked about in our Lodges. Re-zoning and re-districting will be our biggest concern this upcoming year. It will help, aid, and assist all of us if we keep an open and honest mindset. The combining of some committees is also being discussed. We need to make our committees a better asset to our Districts, Lodges, and our Craft as a whole.

If you have any thoughts on any of the topics above, or ones that have not been mentioned, please let me know. I am here for you, and I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Fraternally,  
R.: W.: Richard G. Hoover,  
Senior Grand Warden

## ***A Message From The Senior Grand Warden***



**R.: W.: John E. Karroum,**  
**Junior Grand Warden**

My Brothers, I divide Masonry into three parts. First, is the esoteric part which has existed from time immemorial and should never change. Remember, "Freemasonry is a system of morality veiled in allegories and illustrated by symbols." Freemasonry is a moral institution.

*Brethren,*

My Brothers, again I want to thank you for the vote of confidence you bestowed upon me at our 186th Annual Grand Communication. It is an honor and privilege to serve the Craft as Junior Grand Warden.

Carol and I have traveled throughout our great state and enjoyed all of the places we encountered, and most importantly, we enjoyed the Brotherly love and friendship shown to us in every District and every Lodge we visited.

Second is the social part which includes all of our social activities, festive boards, Grand Master's Official Visits, etc... Third, is the business part which includes running our Lodges and keeping them open to the members and new potential candidates. This is our biggest challenge, to stabilize our Lodges financially and to keep them alive into the twenty-first century.

My Brothers, we have a lot of work ahead of us to improve and build a stronger fraternal organization. The younger generation presents the biggest challenge as they bring new technology and modes of communication that we have to keep up with if we want them in our midst.

My Brothers, let's exchange ideas and work together for the betterment of Freemasonry. I am responsive to pursue new ideas and to work with the Craft for a better future.

Fraternally yours,  
John E. Karroum  
Junior Grand Warden

## ***A Message From Junior Grand Warden***





M.:W.: **Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M.,  
Grand Secretary**

## A Message From The Grand Secretary

*Brothers and friends:*

What a great Fraternity we belong to! Although our membership has slipped down each year it is encouraging to see younger men joining our ranks. The quality of our members is very important to the success of all of our undertakings. When I look at my 4 year grandson I often wonder what changes to society will take place in the next 15 or so years and can only hope they will improve. I have comfort in knowing that he will have the benefit of our Masonic Youth Groups and our Masonic Principles to help him in his journey through life. It sure has helped me.

Back to the topic of Grand Lodge. Our new website has been deployed thanks to the direction of Right Worshipful Joseph Gonzalez and Brother Ken Skillman. Check it out at [www.glflamason.org](http://www.glflamason.org). The new membership portal has been tested and is ready to begin the process of activation. In my 8 plus years as Grand Secretary this is the most important and exciting program to be implemented by Grand Lodge. There will be 9 Secretary and Treasurer Seminars presented across the state and one of the topics is a “how to” on this exciting new project. Any Master Mason

is invited to attend. For a list of upcoming seminars or to register go to [www.grandlodgefl.com/sec\\_treas\\_seminars.html](http://www.grandlodgefl.com/sec_treas_seminars.html). Again, I would like to express a special thank you to Right Worshipful Joseph Gonzalez and Brother Ken Skillman for all they have done. I wish to thank Right Worshipful Don Cowart, D.D.G.M, and Secretary of Brandon Lodge No. 114 for agreeing to perform a Beta Test for his Lodge of the new system. He has spent many hours assisting in the fine tuning of the program.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated staff at our Grand Lodge. Their dedication and devotion shows in achieving a standard of excellence.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Grand Secretary. The staff at the Grand Lodge and I would like to wish everyone a joyous Holiday Season and healthy New Year.

*Sincerely and Fraternally,*

M.:W.: **Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M.  
Grand Secretary**



M.:W.: **Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M.,  
Grand Treasurer**

## A Message From The Grand Treasurer

*Brethren,*

Once again the Holiday Season is upon us, a time to reflect, a time to be thankful for the many blessings we have in this wonderful country. But it also a time to remember the many around the world who have been seriously injured or lost loved ones to the many acts of terrorism. And especially remember our brave men and women in uniform and the first responders who are protecting our way of life.

This is also a time of new beginning, new Lodge Officers, new programs, new ideas and hopefully a time of renewal of the dedication of the Brothers who haven’t been to the Lodge in some time. It is hoped they will return and rekindle the enthusiasm they shared when they first received their Degrees and the Lodges continue to prosper. It is our duty

as Masons, not to be content with the status quo but to work to bring back our delinquent Brothers that they may enjoy the beauties of Freemasonry once again. If you have Brothers in your Lodge who are going to be suspended for non-payment of dues, talk to them, find out what their problems are and if there is any way you can help, aid and assist.

Again, have a wonderful Holiday Season and may God truly bless you, your family and your Lodge.

*Sincerely & Fraternally,*

M.:W.: **Elmer Coffman, P.G.M.  
Grand Treasurer**

## Naval Lodge No. 24

It was the DDGM’s homecoming visit that set the stage for this fun evening. After a wonderful SUPPER was provided by R.:W.: Kearley (J.W.) the program was turned over to District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Dudley Minton. While the various committeemen gave very informative talks, there were several who paid strict attention. You see, Naval Lodge has just initiated five new masons, and they were all ears. Eager to learn, and surprised to hear all the different programs we have to offer. There were many presentations made and

speeches but it was the last that was most impressive to all present. Naval Lodge No. 24 also had another honored guest and friend. District one DDGM also had attended, R.:W.: Ron Naumowicz. He is not a stranger to this lodge and is a proud honorary member. They called all the new Entered Apprentices up and presented them with Grand Masters Pins. While this may not seem like much to some of us old timers, it was like gold to them. They approached me after the meeting and asked if they could wear them? I responded with a question from their EA catechism. Which they smiled and answered in unison. “-----”. Well, you know the answer.

## High Springs Lodge No. 137 - Adopts-A-Teacher



The High Springs Lodge No. 137 adopts four Kindergarten teachers at High Springs Community School. Pictured is (L to R) R.:W.: Steve Travis, Lodge Secretary, Mrs. Denise Campbell, Mrs. Sara Kirk, Mrs. Kim McLeod, Ms. Brittany Batten (intern), Mrs. Tana Wenzell and our Senior Warden Mike Hinson, who made the presentation of \$300.00 which will help our dedicated teachers with needed supplies not provided for by the county.

## Ornan Masonic Lodge Celebrates 125 Years

Having been chartered on January 21, 1890 Ornan Lodge No.117 Free and Accepted Masons Celebrated its 125th Year with a Public Ceremony on Saturday January 24th, 2015 with a Re-Consecration Ceremony conducted by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida. There are very few organizations that have served the Williston, Florida community for so long a time.

Ornan Lodge has a long history of service to this Community which continues to this day. The cornerstone for Williston Elementary was laid by The Grand Lodge of Florida. Ornan is a big supporter of the public school system by adopting teachers at the Elementary, Middle and High Schools, by supporting the ROTC with a steak dinner on Armed Forces Day, supplying 6 bicycles each year to students participating in the FCATS and for the most improved readers, Flags for the Schools, The Child ID Program and Williston Child Safety Day. Ornan Lodge also donated \$350.00 to help buy Rings for the Williston Red Devils Baseball Team. Local Food Charities “Bread of the Mighty” and “From the Heart” use the Lodge for free to help those in need. The Lodge has also raised money for cancer patients, and recently completed a wheel chair ramp for the family of a US Army Veteran in Bronson. The Lodge has also been supportive of Operation Shoe Box founded by Mrs. Mary Harper who has sent over 1,000,000 packages to our men a women who serve in the Armed Forces overseas.

### A brief history of Ornan Lodge and Freemasonry in Florida

The original Ornan Lodge was number 37 which was chartered January 24, 1870 in the Buttonwood community which was located

three miles southeast of Williston, Florida. Buttonwood was actually located in Marion County but later became part of Levy County. The last return of Ornan 37 was filed in 1879 and no further record exists. On December 20, 1890, a “new” Ornan Lodge was chartered and assigned the number 117. The first communication was held at Buttonwood Church. In February 1893, at a called communication, it was voted to move Ornan Lodge No.117 to the community of Williston, Lodge Members living in the Phoenix community (Montbrook), voted to form a new Lodge which became Phoenix Lodge No. 140. Bro. F. W. Blitch was elected Worshipful Master. This Lodge did not last long however, surrendering it’s charter in December 1898. The first communication of Ornan Lodge No.117 after the split, was held in Williston on March 31, 1893 in a building that belonged to a Doctor Harvey which was located on what is now Northeast 1st Avenue and Northeast 1st Street. In June 1905 Ornan Lodge No.117 voted to go to lunar meeting time. Communications were held on Saturday nights directly before the full moon of each month. March 12, 1906 Ornan joined with Bronson Lodge No.7 to lay the cornerstone for the new Levy County courthouse. January 2, 1909, the old Lodge building moved to west side of the lot closer to Main Street and what is now Northeast 1st Avenue. March 22, 1913 at a stated communication, a discussion was held and a vote taken to install electric lights in the Lodge. May 22, 1922, it was voted to form a DeMolay chapter and this project was assigned to J. L. Ross and S. Phillip. On June 3, 1929, Dr. Smith L. Turner inquired about renting space for a Lodge Hall over D. B .Barton’s store and asking Dr. Harvey about selling his interest of the Lodge Building. Nothing further was done till October 6, 1930 when land was purchased to build a new hall on the

the south side of Noble Avenue near what was formerly Williston Manufacturing. In August 1933 the Lodge was moved to the new location on Noble Avenue. In 1940 Worshipful Brother Dr. Smith L. Turner was elected to the highest office in Masonry, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons for the State of Florida. Dr. Turner was a long time member of Ornan Lodge No. 117. He had previously been a member of Otter Creek Lodge No. 132 before coming to Williston. He is the only member of Ornan Lodge No. 117 ever elected to the office of Grand Master of Masons for the State of Florida. The Lodge continued to function through the war years with many prominent people in the community holding Membership. In 1962 the Lodge was moved to a new hall located on S.R. 121 just north of town. This new building was constructed almost entirely by Members of the Lodge which is a tribute to the many craftsmen in the community. On October 6, 1990, a centennial celebration was held at the Lodge. The Lodge was opened by the Worshipful Master, the Late R.:W.:Duncan McCallum with the District Deputy Grand Master, Dave Davis present. The centennial address was given by the Grand Master of Masons for the State of Florida, David A. Eschrich.

Information for this history was obtained from the minute books for Ornan Lodge No. 117 and from the History of Defunct and Consolidated Lodges prepared by the Grand Lodge of Florida, from the late Sam McDougal a Past Master of Ornan Lodge No.117, the late Anna Harris, and was compiled by R.:W.: Brother Elihu R. Ross.

Ornan Lodge meets on the First and Third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. All Freemasons are welcome to visit.

## Orange Park Lodge No. 267 Honors Distinguished Past Master

Worshipful Lief Olsen (Left), Master of Orange Park Lodge No. 267 Honored Past Master of 1986, W.:C.J. Kicklighter (Center).



With the assistance of M.:W.: Elmer Coffman, PGM (Right), Worshipful Kicklighter’s extensive Masonic History was read, then W.: Kicklighter was Presented with a Certificate commemorating this event.

## Amelia Lodge No. 47 Awards College Scholarship

Brianna Burnsed of West Nassau High School is Amelia Lodge No. 47, 2015, \$1000 College Scholarship recipient! Brianna will be attending Jacksonville University this fall to pursue a college career in Nursing. Accompanying Brianna are Amelia Lodge Officers, Worshipful Master Fred Lindes, Senior Warden Ed Woodby, Junior Warden Brian Gilvey, and R.:W.: Danny Fullwood Chairman of the Amelia Lodge No. 47 Scholarship Committee.



## Pineland Lodge No. 86 Presents 50 Year Awards

50 year pins were presented to Brothers Herman Whaley, with his wife, and W.: Bobby Rivers and his wife, by M.:W.: Robert Trump (PGM 2006) and W.: Randall Bolen at Pineland Lodge No. 86 on June 4th before a Stated Meeting. A spaghetti dinner was served beforehand and it was another great night at Pineland Lodge!



# Englewood Lodge - Adopt a Teacher

Submitted by Hal Neubauer, 941.474.4491, hal\_Marcia@comcast.net

As previously announced, Englewood Masonic Lodge F&AM No. 360 adopted Kathy Wylie and her Kindergarden class at Vineland Elementary School. One day last month a contingent of Masons from the Lodge visited Vineland. They met with Principal, Laura Blunier; Assistant Principal, Jacqui Barber; Class Assistant, Gaby Redmann, Ms. Wylie, and the students.

This effort is part of a state-wide-initiative promoted by the Grand Lodge of Florida. The Masons asked Ms. Wylie for a wish list of things her Kindergarden class needed. She responded that, "she had never been asked that question before". She turned to her students and asked them for input. Ms. Wylie is known for the ability to spark student interest in a variety of things. Ms Wylie and her Kindergartners were presented a check for \$800. And on Saturday, April 18th another contingent of Masons journeyed to Vineland Elementary. This time the work crew was there to assault the weeds and other unwanted things in the Butterfly Garden.



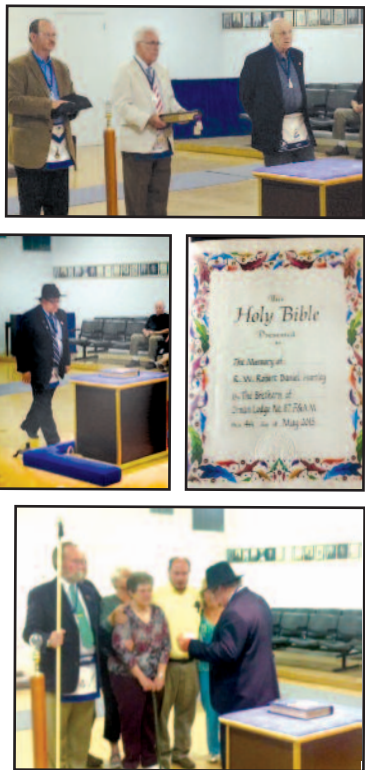
# 65 Years a Master Mason

Brother Russell Battin, was presented his 65 Year Masonic Service Certificate and Pin by Worshipful Master Matthew Brunold of Eustis Lodge No. 85 on April 27th, 2015. Congratulations Brother Battin on your many years of Masonic Service!



# Ornan Masonic Lodge No. 117 Dedicates New Bible

On May 4, 2015 the Brethren of Ornan Masonic Lodge No. 117, located in Williston, held a ceremony to retire the Great Light which had been on the altar for 14,830 days, or over 40 years. It was retired to make room for a new Bible dedicated to our beloved Past Master and longtime Chaplain, R.: W.: Robert Daniel Hartley, P.D.D.G.M. of the old 13th Masonic District, who passed to the Celestial Lodge Above. The ceremony was conducted by the Chaplain and Stewards undraping the Altar, the Chaplain was then instructed to deliver the retired Bible to the Secretary to be placed in the repository of the Lodge. W.: David Bruce Alford then read the dedication in the front of the Bible and placed it on the Altar. The ceremony was conducted after a nice dinner and Flag Ceremony in public view with his wife Peggy, family, and friends as well as over twenty Brethren from several Lodges present. The Worshipful Master then presented Mrs. Hartley a Masonic Widow's Pin. The retired Bible will be placed in a special display and honored place in the Lodge's Anteroom. Ornan Lodge No. 117 meets on the first and third Monday's of each month at 7:30 pm.



# Successful Open House At Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19

Another great "Free Public Open House" event at Marion-Dunn Masonic Lodge No. 19 last night. Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19 celebrated 166 years of being in the Ocala community. There was plenty of great food from Mojo Grill, lots of good information about the great things Freemasonry does in our community and the world (yes, it's the world's oldest and largest Fraternity) and plenty of wonderful door prizes donated by several, supportive, local businesses.

Brothers Mark Sheafer, Ernest William Catsulis Jr. and Greg Wilson provided plenty of thought-provoking information to the attendees. Even 15th Masonic District Committee Member Brother Stephen Higgins presented information about the \$10,000 Middle School patriotic school essay contest and how Freemasonry provides support to Junior ROTC programs in the schools. All done under the watchful eye of Brother Ernie Walden, who is currently the sitting Master of the Lodge. Local media support included wonderful folks like Robin MacBlane at WOCA radio and Bob Rose at WSKY radio who generously provided Brothers John Story and Ray Davis with the air time to explain a little about the charitable works Freemasonry does each day in America. Yup, we give away \$2,000,000 EACH day in charitable donations across the USA.



# Solomon Lodge No. 20 Honors Grand Lodge Staff

Solomon Lodge No. 20 F. & A.M. in Jacksonville honored the Administrative Staff of the Grand Lodge of Florida on April 22nd with a luncheon at their Historic Mansion. Our "Cory Mynhier" and his mother "Sophia" prepared a vast salad bar and baked potato bar that was second to none. Most Worshipful Richard Lynn, Grand Secretary, ushered his staff into a most welcome atmosphere where no one was a stranger. To our dedicated secretaries and administrative staff of the Grand Lodge of Florida, we recognize that you are the hub of continuity for all particular Lodge Operations, and we Thank You for all that you do for us.



# Honorary Memberships By Ornan Lodge No. 177

Ornan Lodge No. 117 hosted a 15th Masonic District Association quarterly Meeting and as such we were able to present three Honorary Memberships. Receiving the Honorary Memberships were Right Reverend Brian Poole, Right Worshipful John Westerman III and Worshipful Kyle Moline in recognition of their participation in the Lodges 125th Anniversary Celebrations on January 24, 2015 it is a great honor to have these fine examples of Masonry as members of Ornan Masonic Lodge.



# Pineland Lodge No. 86 Child ID at Palatka Riverfront

Pineland Lodge No. 86 doing a child ID program at Palatka Riverfront on April 25th, 2015. If anyone has ever seen the look on a parent's face, then that is a good reason to be involved with the Child ID Program either as a Zone Chairman or a District Committeeman for the Child ID Program. More than 2,000 children are reported missing on a daily basis. This should stir our interest. We have been Grandparents, Parents, Uncles, or Aunts and we know how important our children are to us. There are many ways to support the Child ID Program within the Grand Lodge. We must work together to make sure our children remain safe with their own families.

## What is the Child ID Program?

There are many ways to have a Child ID Program. A Zone Chairman could meet with his District Committee and outline his program. There are many programs currently in place to assist the Child ID Program. Some ideas include: get involved with the schools, church groups, Masonic Lodges and the Shrine. There are many community programs that can help this program. We as Masons must seek out these sources and work hand in hand with them. The Child ID Program can be phased into these existing programs and used to our advantage. This program can benefit our children and their parents. One method is to have a VHS or CD made of the child with their current weight, color of their hair, ask a few questions that the child can answer if they get lost or taken away by a stranger. Your support to this program is vital and will be successful with your hard work and dedication. This program is a team effort and it will take everyone's efforts to pull it off.



# Scholarship Awards Winners – Lemon Bay High School

Lemon Bay High School Awards night was held on May 19th. That night, the smiles of Melissa Maheu and Maria Sheppard were bright enough to light the stage, as Masons, John Stone and Gary Schroeder presented each of them \$1,335.00 scholarship awards. The Englewood Masonic Lodge-Scholarship Trust fund usually makes one or more awards annually. The current committee consists of Brothers John Stone, Chairman, Gary Schroeder, Harry Shaffer, Hal Neubauer, and Dennis Doome.

# 2013 Officers and DDGM's Reunion

On October 10, 2015 in Crystal River Florida, The Appointed Grand Lodge Officers and District Deputy Grand Masters for M.: W.: Danny Griffith, Grand Master 2013, gathered with their ladies for a reunion.



# M.: W.: Danny Griffith Presented Honorary Membership

On August 6, 2015 at a Stated Communication at Pineland Lodge No. 86, Worshipful Randy Bolen Presented Most Worshipful Danny Griffith, PGM, with an Honorary Membership.

# 13th Masonic District Raises Funds For Charity

R.: W.: Troy Usina, President of the 13th Masonic District Association, issued an "ice bucket challenge" to our DDGM, R.: W.: David Rich. R.: W.: Rich accepted the challenge if the District Association raised \$200 for a Masonic Charity. The Association raised \$400.00 for "Let your pennies make good cents", and the shower followed at the Association's meeting at Lake Lodge No. 72 on August 26th. W.: Randy Bolen of Pineland Lodge No. 86 and W.: Keith Dunham of Lake Lodge No. 72 did the pouring.



# Tallahassee Attorney And Brother George Waas Pens Fourth Book

Here is a photo and press release. As always, I will donate a portion of the royalties of the sales of my book to the Masonic Home.

Tapping into the growing interest in ancestry, long-time Tallahassee resident George Waas, a former newspaper and retired state government lawyer, has written a sequel to his 2012 memoir. His latest work is entitled On third thought... further reflections on retirement and other things. “a mini-memoir”.

“In 2012, I wrote a memoir entitled ‘Retired... and Loving It!’ At that time, I covered every subject I wanted to write about, or so I thought. Early this year, I came to the realization that I didn’t have enough perspective on what retirement is all about after just three years; hence, my sequel,” Waas said.

His original memoir is a memoir/autobiography with emphasis on his years as a reporter in south Florida and more than 32 years with the State of Florida; with more than 23 years with the Attorney General's Office. His sequel covers additional matters omitted from the first, as well as points gleaned over the past three years. “I wrote my life story for my family, and to encourage others to tell their stories. History is about people’s lives. I thought I covered it all in 2012; however, the passage of three more years gave me greater perspective”, Waas said.

He said he chose the title as a play on the phrase “second thoughts.” “I figured how you can have second thoughts about a subject; if you had a second thought, any thought after that would necessarily have to be a third, fourth, and on and on. After my second thought, I decided not to write; on my third thought, I got down to the task,” Waas said.

He also emphasized the importance of memoir writing to his family and future generations. “There’s nothing magical about writing your life story. Each one of us has led a unique life; just as no two people are alike, so it is that no two people have led the same lives,” he said. “It’s important for your family, and their families, to know their ancestry. Records of the past are hard to obtain; if you leave a record of your life, ancestry searching is made that much easier. I’ve written my life story; you should write yours. Your family-and you-will be glad you did,” he added.

In 2012, Waas also wrote two novellas; the first, entitled The Source, is a DaVinci Code-type action thriller novella that involves a home computer telling the author a story that discredits all notions of history, religion-indeed, all aspects of human existence-challenging the reader to inquire “if you dare,” he said.

The third, entitled, The Great American Short Story, is also a novella that tells of Hollywood fame and fortune, business success, love and lust, politics, intrigue, retribution, vengeance, and just about every theme that a story can cover, he noted. “If lawyers are looking for something to do in retirement, well, I found something” Waas said.

All four of his books are published by AuthorHouse Publishing Company and are available in printed and electronic versions on the publisher's website, as well as from Barnes and Noble and Amazon.com. “Just go to the website, type in my name, and you will see my books,” Waas said.



# William S. O’Brien Memorial Scholarship Award

Sun Coast Masters and Wardens Association, is happy to announce the winner of its annual William S. O’Brien Memorial Scholarship Award, Ms. Megan Reinhart, a graduating senior at Northeast High School in St. Petersburg. Ms. Reinhart will be attending Florida State University, in Tallahassee and seeking a Degree in Nursing with a minor in Child Development.

The William S. O’Brien Memorial Scholarship is a program that awards a grant to deserving local students in assisting them in their college tuition.

Sun Coast Masters and Wardens (serving all of Pinellas and West Pasco Counties) is a fraternal organization which seeks to assist the youth of our community to become better citizens through education and higher learning.



L to R: Whitney U. Baker, W.:M.: of Pinellas Daylight Lodge No. 385; Ms. Megan Reinhart; R.:W.: Glen B. Bishop, PM, PDDGM, President Sun Coast Masters & Wardens Assoc.

# “Relay For Life” Supported By Ashlar Lodge No. 98

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 in St. Augustine was recently recognized for its ongoing support of the American Cancer Society. The Lodge was presented with a certificate of appreciation during the Stated Communication on May 21. Bro. Phil Karp, a six-year cancer survivor presented W.: Chris Cannan the certificate and noted that Ashlar Lodge No. 98 donated more than \$600 to “Relay for Life” to support his team. Thirty-five teams with 216 participants participated in the event on May 2 and May 3. 2015, at St. Augustine High School. At “Relay for Life”, communities across the globe come together to honor cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease. Many of the participants are themselves cancer survivors.

“Relay for Life” teams camp out overnight and take turns walking or running around a track or path at a local high school, park, or fairground. Because cancer never sleeps, each team is asked to have at least one participant on the track at all times.

The St. Augustine event raised almost \$59,000 to support cancer research.



W. Chris Cannan, Bro. Phil Karp

# Work Day Lodge No. 267

Several Brothers from Orange Park Lodge No. 267 showed up for Lodge work day on Saturday, May 2nd. The exterior of the building needed painting and after two coats, the building looked great.



# Ms. “Ed”na Mayfield A Rainbow Girl

Many attendees had the great pleasure to watch Ms. Edna Mayfield (R.:W.: Ed Mayfield DDGM 18th Masonic District) be initiated into the International Rainbow for Girls, Chapter No. 79 in Mt. Dora. R.:W.: Mayfield was a great sport and everyone had a blast watching it. Rainbow Assembly No. 79 plans to have this every year at a different Lodge so next year be sure and get your tickets early and come out and watch the fun and support our Rainbow Girls.



# Lawtey Lodge No. 189 Supports Law Enforcement Officers Week

Lawtey Lodge No. 189 Free & Accepted Masons supported Law Enforcement Officers Week on May 7, 2015, by recognizing Lawtey Correctional Officer Josue Sanchez, Lawtey Police Department's Sgt. Michael Gillick, and Bradford County Sheriff Department's Master Deputy James Albritton with Certificates of Recognition and a gift card.

Captain Nathan Blom of Lawtey Police Department as well as Warden Barry Reddish and Major Daiquiri Duncan of Lawtey Correctional Institution were present when these men were honored.

The evening began with a great dinner consisting of macaroni salad, potato salad, fresh baked bread, crackers, tossed salad, Mama's chili, Fireman’s chili, and banana pudding for dessert. When everybody finished dinner, we retired to the Lodge Room for the recognitions and presentations.

Worshipful Master Tom Sorensen began the presentations with introductions of the District Deputy Grand Masters and Past Worshipful Masters of this Lodge. Worshipful Master Tom Sorensen closed the evening by stating that without the protectors on the streets and the keepers of the gates, we would be living in a hostile environment. He thanked the officers present, their families, as well as all other officers for a job well done.



# Leesburg Lodge No. 58 Sponsors Two Baseball Teams

Leesburg Lodge No. 58 is proud to be a sponsor of two Little League® Baseball Teams in the City of Lady Lake. From perfectly pitched fastballs to great displays of sportsmanship, the kids who play Little League® Baseball always bring their “A” game. Like their big league idols, Little Leaguers show everyone how sweat, determination, and teamwork can lead to success. But they also show us that, win or lose, the games are really about fun and fair play.

So here’s a big thanks to all the players, coaches, volunteers, parents and countless others who make Little League® such a success. Your selfless dedication has made the baseball diamond a great place to play, learn and grow.

The photos included are of two plaques presented to the Lodge and team photos, the “Rays” and the “Bulls”, The Lodge proudly sponsors. Two large sponsor banners are in full display at the field.



# Lawtey Lodge Awards Memorial Day Essay Contest Winners

Members of Lawtey Lodge No 189 Free & Accepted Masons sponsored an Essay contest at Lawtey Elementary School this year. The essay was “What Memorial Day Means to Me”. Worshipful Master Tom Sorensen and Past Masters Roy Weiland and David Neiman presented awards to the winners on June 4, 2015 at the school.

W.:M.: Sorensen informed the audience the Committee selected to judge the winners had a difficult time deciding the winners; commenting all the essays were very good. Ms. Jennifer Vaughan, Principal of Lawtey Elementary School announced the winners while Worshipful Tom presented the award certificate to the child. Pictured are W.:M.: Sorensen and Ms. Vaughan with the winners: 3rd grade, Arden Williams, Kemari Hall, and Crystal Benner; 4th grade were Conner Pressley, Briana Jorden, and Kaitlyn Sellers; and 5th grade were Josie Cannon, Ariana Covington, and Dakota Rosier.



# Groveland Lodge No. 190 Awards 50 Year Certificate

On July 9, 2015, W.: Jim Dyer, PM was Presented his 50 Year Certificate & Pin at a Stated Communication.



L to R: W.: Bill Price, W.:M.:; Bro. Jeff Snyder, SD; W.: Jim Dyer, PM; Bro. Riley Giddens.



# Gulf Beach Lodge Awards College Scholarship

Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge No. 291, located in Madeira Beach, presented its annual Albert T. and Tupper MacMillan Scholarship, supported by the Ernest J. Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship was presented to Ms. Kendall Yeates a graduating senior at Osceola Fundamental High School in Seminole. Ms. Yeates will be attending the University of South Florida in the fall where she will begin her studies in English Literature. Ms. Yeates has many hours of volunteer time at the St. Pete College library, the St. Petersburg Quilters Guild service projects, and has been active in her years at Osceola High School in the Marching and Concert Bands and the Drama Department. Ms. Yeates has been inducted into the Thespian Society and has repeatedly been on the Principal’s list for academic achievements.

Worshipful Ernest J. Freeman Jr., Master of Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291 in 1984, had a vision. This vision was to create a scholarship program that would grant deserving local student’s funds to assist in their college tuition. It was also his vision to create a program which would be self-perpetuating thereby being a source of assistance well into the future. After the passing of Ernest Freeman the Scholarship program was renamed in his memory and has helped support four college students each year since its inception. The annual Scholarship winner receives \$2,000.00 to assist in their College or University expenses.

Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge No. 291 was chartered in 1950 and has been an active presence on the Gulf Beaches since that time. For years the Masonic Lodge has been a part of the Adopt-a-Highway program and takes care of the periodic cleanup of portions of Gulf Blvd. and the Tom Stewart Causeway. The Lodge is a strong supporter of many charitable organizations such as the American Heart Association, PARC, the American Lung Association, the St. Petersburg Free clinic, and many others.



# Recognition Of 50 Years Of Service To The Craft and Community

Brother John R. Sproat, Jr was awarded a 50 year service award. Brother John was born in 1932. He began his Masonic Journey in 1965 in the North Hills, Pennsylvania Lodge being initiated an Entered Apprentice. He was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on March 3rd of that year. On April 29th, 1965 he was raised to Master Mason. Brother John demitted from North Hills Lodge in March of 2004 and Affiliated with Englewood Lodge No. 360 on May 18th, 2004. On April 29, 2005 he received his 40-year service award. Pictured on the left is Right Worshipful Roger Craig of Venice Lodge No. 301 who conducted the ceremony, center is Brother John Sproat, Jr. and on the right is Denis Doome, Worshipful Master of Englewood Lodge No. 360 who presented the certificate of service. Brother John’s Masonic Journey includes being a Shriner and membership in the Englewood Shrine Club.



# Englewood Lodge No. 360 - Open House

Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360 had a very gratifying response to their Open House on Saturday, May 23. Approximately 35 persons attended. The group was a mix of Masons and interested Community Members. Illustrious 33rd Degree, Past Master, Harry Shaffer, Jr. hosted the event. Lodge members were present to assist in the discussions and show the meeting room and facilities. It was a great opportunity to see what is involved and understand how Freemasonry plays a part in our community. Here a group listens to Brother Shaffer’s explanations. **Englewood Masonic Lodge, 265 Pine Street, Englewood, FL 34223**



# Masons Conduct Child ID Session

Englewood Lodge No. 360, in collaboration with the Home Depot, conducted a Child Identification session on a Saturday morning from 9am to 11am at the Englewood store location. Another community service provided free-of-charge by Florida Masons. Designed to help provide security for our loved ones should they find themselves in harms way. A Childs vital statistics are recorded on a DVD including visual image, fingerprints, verbal recording, additional data unique to each child and a DNA specimen. All of this is provided to the parent or legal representative at the conclusion of each sitting. All material is recorded using computers and nothing remains resident on the equipment ensuring total confidentiality to the individuals. Eleven individuals were processed Saturday morning.

Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360 has offered this community service for several years since the Grand Lodge of Florida first endorsed it. W.: Gene Jeffers, past Master of Englewood Lodge and past Deputy District Governor, is presently the District 27 Chairman of the Child ID Program. The age range is flexible. Usually some verbal skills are desired and upper limits include youth not yet independent.

The next public session is scheduled Friday June 12th 10am to 1pm at the Sam’s Club in Port Charlotte.

If you have a group or are part of an organization of young people and want to provide an extra measure of protection for them, call the Lodge and schedule a group session. We can come to you. 941.475.9211.



Mason Bill Boyer, right, coordinates registration for the Child ID session.



Lines are inevitable. Parents wait with their children for their turn to sit before the camera.



Englewood Lodge Member and District 27 Chairman, W.: Gene Jeffers right rear and Lodge Brother Bill Boyer, right front, implement recording of children.

# Tampa Ladies Enjoy The Movies

At Tampa Lodge No. 240 the Ladies enjoy a program every 2nd Tuesday of the month. This particular evening the Ladies enjoyed dinner and the movie “Finding Normal” while the men conducted their meeting. All Ladies are welcome to join us any 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30p.m.

# 13th Masonic District Hosts Naval JROTC

Green Cove Springs - The 13th Masonic District Association hosted the Color Guard from the Naval JROTC unit at Clay County High School during its regular meeting on May 20th. The Color Guard is led by Cadet LTJG Gabriella Flores. Color Guard members are Cadet Petty Officer First Class (C/PO1) Brandon Brown, C/PO3 Briyuna Mack, C/PO3 Marcus Allen and C/PO3 Elisha Rowell who was also Freshman Cadet of the Year for the Unit.

The Color Guard presented the colors in proper military form prior to the evening meal and Cadet Flores led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Colors were then retired with an outstanding display of military drill.

During the Association’s regular business session, Captain Michael Boyer, Senior Military Instructor at Clay County High School, made a presentation about the JROTC program in our nation’s high schools. He noted its focus on education and the manner in which it prepares the next generation for citizenship. Each of the Cadets present followed CAPT Boyer informing those assembled about why they participated in JROTC and what the program meant to them.

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida strongly supports the JROTC program throughout the state and regularly presents awards to JROTC Cadets. At the conclusion of the presentations, Cadet LTJG Gabriella Flores was presented with a certificate recognizing her as the Outstanding JROTC Cadet in the 13th Masonic District. The presentation was made by Russell Raulerson, District Deputy Grand Master of the 13th Masonic District. Cadet Flores also received a monetary award from Cabul Lodge. That presentation was made by Donald Warner, Worshipful Master of Cabul Lodge.



Front row, L to R: Cadet Petty Officer 1st Class Brandon Brown, Cadet LTJG Gabriella Flores, C/PO3 Elisha Rowell, C/PO3 Marcus Allen, C/PO3 Briyuna Mack.



Cadet Flores, Russell Raulerson  
Cadet Flores, Donald Warner

# Stellar Night Of Fellowship And Fellowcraft Degree

Submitted by Brother Chris Rich, Phoenix Lodge No. 346

On the June 2, Phoenix Lodge No. 346 held a Fellowcraft Degree. Our Senior Warden Mark Brewer presided in the East and did an outstanding job. The Senior Warden’s station remained with our Brother Juan Sanchez and our Senior Deacon Brother James Duffy sat in the South, our Junior Deacon Scott Richards took on the role of Senior Deacon, conducting our candidates for the evening, and our Senior Steward Chris Rich sat in the Junior Deacon station. Our new Fellowcrafts were conducted by our sitting W.: M.: and 2 of our Past Masters. The new Fellowcrafts for the night were Brothers Bacon, Brusoe, Drake and Savary. It must be said that the whole degree team did a fantastic job.

The Fellowcraft Lecture was given by Brother J. J. Albritton from Manatee Lodge No. 31 in his usual spectacular fashion. Brother J.J. was raised in August 2014 and earned his Gold card in March 2015 which along with his Brown Card was recently presented to him at our 186th Annual Grand Communication this year where he received a standing ovation for this incredible achievement. Incredible in the sense that you have to know all the openings, closings, prayers, charges and lectures to earn both of these cards. It is always a pleasure to listen to any of Brother J.J.’s lectures and we’re truly fortunate to have him as part of our FC Degree team.

For those of you who were not fortunate enough to be there, you missed a stellar night of fellowship and the opportunity to witness one of the better deliveries of a Fellowcraft Degree I have seen in a long time. Nicely done my Brothers!



# Americanism Night at Lawtey Lodge No. 189

Lawtey Lodge No. 189 celebrated Flag Day and Americanism night on June 4th, 2015. Worshipful Tom Sorensen of Lawtey Lodge scheduled the “Build a Flag” program and the reenactment of Patrick Henry’s speech on March 20, 1775, of “Give me Liberty or give me death”. The Hero’s 76 members: Bro. Paul J. Mast, Bro. Dwight Shuman, and Bro. Joe Wilkerson presented the “Build a Flag” program. Bro. Robby Stokes and Bro. Barry Collins performed the “Patrick Henry” speech. All Masons performing were in period costume/uniform worn during the American Revolution. The meal consisted of an all American meal of hot dogs, apple pie, and all the fixings.

Pictured are Robby Stokes and Barry Collins.  
Tom Sorensen, Paul J. Mast, Dwight Shuman, and Joe Wilkerson



# Amelia Lodge Charity Ride

Brothers from Amelia Lodge No. 47 support Boots on the Ground Charity Ride on May 9, 2015!



# Amelia Lodge No. 47 Hosts Past Masters

Members of Amelia Lodge No. 47 in Fernandina Beach showed their appreciation on Past Masters Appreciation Night on August 25, 2015!



# Amelia Lodge No. 47 Welcomes Its Newest Master Mason



ferred the Degree from the East. Visitors from Woodbine Lodge No. 326 in Woodbine, Georgia and J. Wendell Fargis Lodge No. 356 also attended the Degree.

Amelia Lodge No. 47, located in Fernandina Beach, newest Master Mason, Brother Jay Moore! Brother Moore was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on June 30, 2015 as his Uncle, R.: W.: Danny Fullwood con-



# 60 Years a Mason - Worshipful Brother William W. Williams

Worshipful Brother William W. Williams, who lives now on Euston Ave. in Englewood, was awarded a 60-year service award Tuesday June 16, 2015. Brother William was born October 10, 1929 in Twining. Michigan. He began his Masonic Journey January 19, 1951 in the Bowring Lodge in Omer, Michigan where he was initiated an Entered Apprentice. He was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on April 5th of that year. On May 25, 1951 he was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. William transferred out and affiliated with Rose City Lodge No. 0481 on April 2, 1959. Rose City Lodge was merged into West Branch Lodge No. 0376 on January 16, 1988. Under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, William served as Worshipful Master and Secretary of his Lodge. On May 25, 1991 William became a Life Member of the Masonic Fraternity.

# New Masonic Lodge - Miami-Dade Hispano-Americana

Presented here are photos from the installation of the Officers of the new Spanish Speaking Lodge, “Miami-Dade Hispano-Americana U.D.; authorized to work under dispensation from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Florida. The installation of the officers took place on June 6, 2015, in South Miami, Florida, by the Most Worshipful Jorge L Aladro, PGM, with the assistance of the Most Worshipful Grand Secretary Richard Lynn and the Most Worshipful Joe Fleites, PGM. Principle Officers are Worshipful Master. Eduardo Jaime, Senior Warden, Willie Falcon and Junior Warden, Hector F. Schwerert, The U.S. Flag for the Lodge was donated by Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and this flag flew over our Nation’s Capital Building in Washington D.C. on the date of the installation, June 6, 2015.



# Passing Of Worshipful Brother Bill Tingler A Masons Mason

This is indeed a loss to our fraternal family. Worshipful Brother Bill Tingler set the standard for our Lodge, Gulf Breeze Lodge No. 347, for many, many men when they joined our Fraternity not just for what it meant to be a “Mason” as compared to the man who wears a ring engraved with the square and compasses but what it took to have the privilege of entering “HIS” Lodge Room.



Yes, Worshipful Brother Bill considered the Lodge Room a sacred place that only the true should enter-one who loved the Fraternity and what it stood for. For the record he did not do this from the sidelines. Brother Bill made himself available to every man who wanted his help. I have since come to understand his love for the Fraternity, his devotion to his beliefs and his family. I implore all of our young new mason to seek out those, who through years of dedicated service, hold the history of our Fraternity in their minds and hearts and really enjoy passing it on. We just need to ask! I am so glad so many of us could make it to his 65 year presentation, it meant a lot to Worshipful Brother Bill and his family.

His wife, daughter, brother and even his grandson were very aware of the enormity of this moment. Trust me Brothers it was an overwhelming event. I have sent flowers on behalf of the Lodge to his family and let them know we are there for them in their moment of sorrow and our prayers are with each of them.

District 2 - Public Relations and Publicity Committee,Worshipful Master Lewis Whidden

# It’s All About New Blood

If you have traveled around the state visiting other Shrine Clubs or other Masonic Organizations you’ve seen the declining health of our Fraternity. It’s happening in all of our bodies. Our membership is aging rapidly, expenses are going up, and income is going down. Our buildings are suffering from age and neglect. Our towns are losing young families and the economy sucks. We’ve started closing Clubs and Lodges. What are we to do?

Well, the first thing to recognize is that this is not the first time the American Masonry has seen dramatic turmoil. We saw it during the fight and transition between the Moderns and the Ancients immediately following the Revolutionary War. We saw it after the Adams Affair in 1820, we saw it after the Civil War Veterans began dying out. We are seeing it now as our World War II Veterans are dying out. In each scenario Lodges closed, in some cases were burned down, Lodges consolidated, and the Fraternity shrunk. We’ve recovered before, we can do it again.

First please recognize that the pain is not over yet. In Florida we will probably continue to shrink some more. We will all be going to a lot more Masonic Funerals, more Lodges and Clubs will close, and our senior Masons and Nobles still have to figure out how to get the younger men interested in Masonry. But make no mistake, the only way to have a healthy Temple is to have healthy Blue Lodges to draw new, young men from. It’s all about new blood.

# Lodge No. 267 Presents 40 Year Certificate & Pin

R.: W.: Elmer Coffman presented W.: Larry Bilka with his 40 Year Certificate and Pin at a Orange Park Lodge No. 267 Stated Communication meeting in June.



# Palmwood Masonic Lodge No. 303, Open House

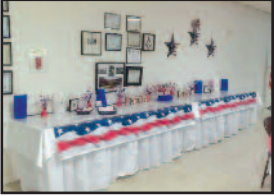
On September 19, 2015, Palmwood Masonic Lodge No. 303, in West Palm Beach, held an open house. Joined by family and friends, Palmwood Lodge presented Outstanding Community Service awards to three local first-responders: (pictured from left) Captain Kenneth Bryan with Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, W.: Al Flores Worshipful Master of Palmwood Lodge No. 303, Deputy Sheriff Mark Riemer with the Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office and Officer Jason Barquin with the West Palm Beach Police Department. These three outstanding first-responders wanted to serve the communities in which they were born and raised. Palmwood Lodge No. 303 also made \$100 donations in their name, to each of their chosen charities.



Palmwood Lodge presented local student Maisha Nabila with a \$500 scholarship award for academic excellence. Ms. Nabila is Forest Hill High School’s 2015 Valedictorian. She is currently attending the University of Florida. Accepting the award for Ms. Nabila were her mother, father and younger sister.

# Tampa Lodge No. 240 Celebrates “Happy Birthday America”

Tampa Masonic Lodge No. 240 loves decorating with red white and blue “Happy Birthday America” celebration. Tampa Masonic Lodge No. 240 hosted a “Family Night” on June 30, 2015 at 6:30 pm, all were welcome for a fried chicken covered dish dinner. The Masonic Home of Florida was the guest speaker to discuss the Home and donations were collected for the home. Tampa Masonic Lodge No. 240 encourages all Lodges to support The Masonic Home Of Florida with functions the promote fellowship and family interaction.



# Amelia Lodge No. 47 & Temple Lodge No. 23 Initiates New Masons

On June 23rd, 2015 at Amelia Lodge No. 47, located in Fernandina Beach, two new Entered Apprentice Masons were initiated into our great and honorable Fraternity. From Amelia Lodge No. 47 Brother Ben Sports and from Temple Lodge No. 23, located in Jacksonville, Brother Matthew Thompson. Welcome Brothers.



# Son Pins Father For 50 Years As A Mason

It was a very special night in Fernandina Beach at Amelia Lodge No. 47, June 9th, 2015 Stated Communication! It's not often, that Brother George Faucher Jr. gets to pin a 50 year pin on his Dad, W.: George Faucher Sr! Brother George Faucher Sr. was joined by his family for the celebration!



# Orange Park Presents Certificate And Pin

R.: W.: Rudy Boatright Presented W.: George Thomson with his MH100 Certificate and Pin at Orange Park Lodge No. 267 on July 20, 2015.



Each and every Noble should be mission driven to bring in a new, young man into his Blue Lodge. And it’s imperative that he is an outstanding man of good character. Over the past 15 years, as we began to experience declining membership, we automatically flipped into panic mode for membership. If the guy was breathing and could pass the background check and had cash, by golly sign him up. And please don’t raise the dues because we’ve got to make it easy for him to join. To become healthy we have to change those two mind sets. We have to increase dues across the board and we have to hold our petitioners to a higher standard.

If you Google “compare dues to expenses for a healthy organization” a series of quality articles will pop up. And just ask yourself this question. Would I honestly want to spend time with this man and his family?

As in past generations of Masons, it’s in our hands. They recovered from worse situations then we are now facing. They did it, so can we? It will take time and some difficult thoughts and actions but “It’s All About New Blood”.

Serving the Nobility ; Yours in the Faith  
Kurt Morauer; 2nd Ceremonial Master; Morocco Shrine

R.: W.: Kurt Morauer is a Past President of the Gainesville Shrine Club, Past Captain of the Nomads Parade Unit, Past Master of Gainesville Masonic Lodge No. 41, Past DDGM 2010 and 2011, a 32\* Scottish Rite Mason, has served in the East of the 3 Gainesville York Rite Bodies, is a Past District Deputy Grand Commander, and is the Junior Past Sovereign Master of William A. Bessent III AMD Council No. 363.



# Masonic

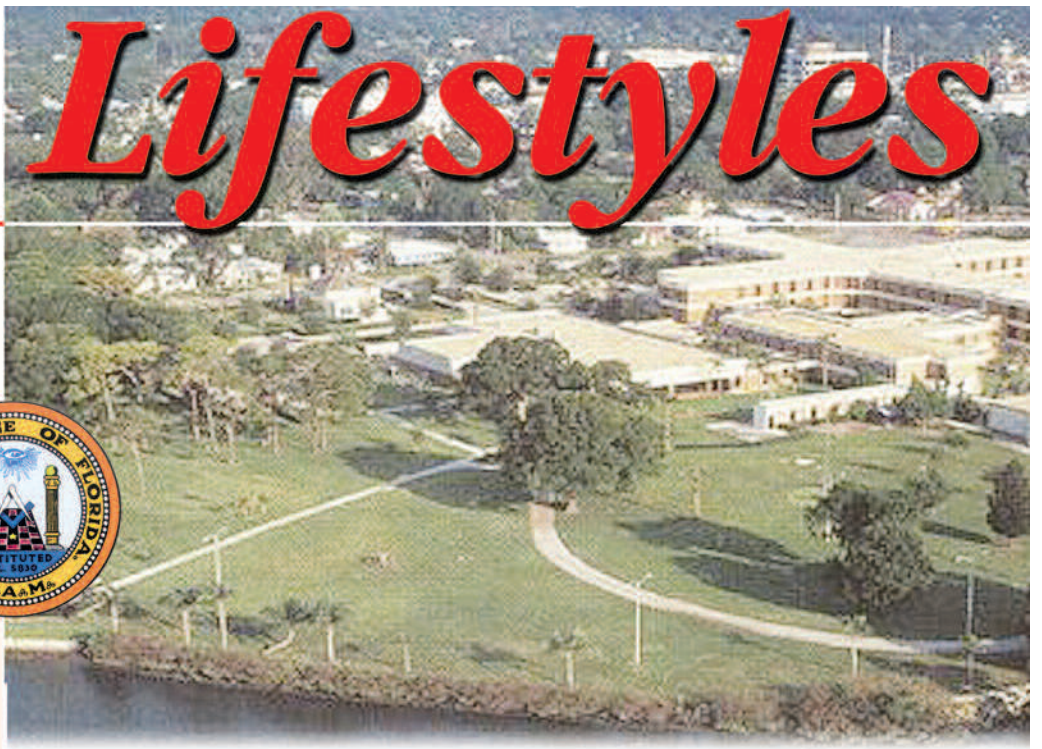
A Joint Publication Of The Grand Lodge of Florida And The Masonic Home

## Masonic Home OF FLORIDA



A TRADITION OF CARING

*On The Shores Of Coffee Pot Bayou*



### Resident Is One Of The "Gang"

Marion Rudolph, Resident, sponsored by Port Tampa Lodge No. 240 is presented her vest by the Templars Chapter of the Widows Sons. Mrs. Rudolph was honored by this amazing gesture and appreciates all those who regularly visit to spend time with her.



### Birthdays Extraordinaire

On August 5th, Effie Watson celebrated 102nd Birthday and Lucy Cappelen turned 99!! Effie is shown with her family. Ramona Cruz is with Lucy



Effie



Lucy







**Grand Lodge of Florida**  
220 North Ocean Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
P.O. Box 1020 • 32201  
Tel: 800.375.2339  
[www.gflmason.org](http://www.gflmason.org)

**Grand Lodge Officers**  
2015 - 2016

**GRAND MASTER**  
M.: W.: Steven P. Boring  
(DeLand)

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**  
R.: W.: Stanley L. Hudson  
(Port St. Lucie)

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN**  
R.: W.: Richard G. Hoover  
(St. Petersburg)

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**  
R.: W.: John E. Karroum,  
(Boynton Beach)

**GRAND TREASURER**  
M.: W.: Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M.  
(Orange Park)

**GRAND SECRETARY**  
M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M.  
(Jacksonville)

*All submissions for future  
issues of The Masonic Lifestyles  
should be sent to  
Lisa Tsotsos, Toll Free at  
866-868-6749 or E-Mail:  
[masonichm@aol.com](mailto:masonichm@aol.com)*

**Next Issue Deadline:**  
**The Florida Mason**  
Vol. 9, Issue 1  
**& Masonic Lifestyles**  
Summer 16

*Submission Date*  
March 10, 2016

*Print Date*  
May 5, 2016

## First Lady's Project

The Lady's Project this Masonic Year is to renovate the beauty salon at the Masonic Home so that residents can enjoy a great day of beauty and relaxation.

Thank you in advance to all of the Ladies, Lodges, and Brothers who will contribute so generously to this project.



## A Camping We Will Go

In June, the Activities Room was transformed into a Camp site! With tent, gear, and all, the Residents enjoyed the s'mores and Campfire stories! Residents even contributed long underwear for the clothesline!



## Marston Lodge Jazz Wows Residents

Every year for about 10 years now, the Marston Lodge has sponsored the bus and expenses for the Marion High School Jazz Band to come to the home and perform for the Residents. It consists of about 20 talented band Members! What a wonderful treat for the Residents.



*All submissions for future issues of The Masonic Lifestyles should be sent to Lisa Tsotsos  
[masonichm@aol.com](mailto:masonichm@aol.com)*



# Programs Which Benefit Masonic Home Of Florida



We Are Pleased To Offer An **OUTREACH** Program Serving Members Throughout Florida! Whether you have a need for Residential Services on our St. Petersburg campus, or in your local Community, please call the Masonic Home of Florida toll free at (866) 868-6749 for Assistance with Aging Services.

**M**asonic Lifestyles is a complimentary semi-annual newsletter produced by the Masonic Home of Florida and The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Florida. Story requests, comments or suggestions for future issues may be e-mailed directly to: [masonichm@aol.com](mailto:masonichm@aol.com) or mailed to: Masonic Home of Florida, Attention: Lisa Tsotsos • 3201 1st Street NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704

The Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home cordially invite you to attend monthly meetings at the Masonic Home, 11:00 A.M. in the Board Room. Chapel Service starts at 10:00 A.M.  
June 21st, July 19th, Aug. 16th, Sept. 20th, Oct. 18th, Nov. 15th, Dec. 20th

## ADMISSION PLANS

### Life Care Plan

**T**his traditional plan is available to any Master Mason who becomes a Member of a Florida Lodge prior to the age of 70. He must be a Member in good standing of a Florida Lodge for at least ten years and continually for the last three. The wife or widow of a Master Mason is eligible for residency based on his Membership. Contact your Lodge or the Masonic Home for an application. Upon completion, the application is signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary. It is then presented to the District Deputy Grand Master for review. The application is then forwarded to the Admissions Committee, Board of Trustees, and Grand Master for final approval. This process takes approximately 30-60 days. Dual Members are also eligible.

Under the Life Care Plan, assets owned by the Resident such as property, bank accounts, stocks, social security, pensions, etc., are deposited with the Masonic Home. These assets are then converted to cash to establish a Resident Maintenance Account. Each month, this account is debited to cover the cost of care. Residents retain 10% of any liquid assets, initially and subsequently, in excess of \$10,000 for personal use. When assets are exhausted, the Masonic Home continues to provide care throughout the lifetime of the Resident regardless of his/her ability to pay.



### Pay As You Go (Private Pay)\*\*

**I**n May of 2005, The Grand Lodge of Florida approved Private Pay admissions for Florida and non-Florida Masons. This plan provides an opportunity for Florida and non-Florida Master Masons and their wives, widows and mothers to retain control of their assets while enjoying all the Masonic Home has to offer. Residents pay a three month deposit and \$3,650\* monthly for Assisted Living and \$6,083\* monthly for Skilled Nursing care. Most fees and services are included except medication. For couples entering the Masonic Home, the first person pays this monthly fee and the second person fee is \$1,800\* monthly. Applicants for Pay As You Go should get in touch with the Masonic Home directly to begin the admission process which can take as little as one week for approval.

\*\*Please Note that effective June 2012, Women who are qualified Members of the Order of the Eastern Star are now eligible to apply for the "Pay As You Go" Plan.

\*Rates subject to change.



# Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291 Supports Masonic Park And Youth Camp

Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge located in Madeira Beach recently donated \$300.00 to the Masonic Park and Youth Camp in Wimauma, Florida. The donation will go towards building benches along the park trails for the comfort of the park visitors. In 1969, seventeen Masonic Lodges from Districts 22 and 23 incorporated the Masonic Park and Youth Camp, Inc. as a 501(c)3, nonprofit corporation. The purpose of this corporation is to own, develop, improve, operate, and manage a camp for the primary use of young men, women and families. The Masonic Park seeks to promote the moral, intellectual and physical wellbeing of such people through education in the conservation of wildlife and natural resources. The Masonic Park provides an opportunity for such young people to learn and develop the qualities of leadership and physical fitness by providing for them lodging, amenities, outdoor athletic facilities, canoeing, hiking, lecture and wild life exploration, indoor entertainment halls, dining facilities, and much more.



W. John Anthony (left) presents \$300 donation to the Masonic Park and Youth Camp

# Boca~Delray Lodge No. 171 Places Wreath for 32nd Masonic District

A delegation of Brothers of Boca~Delray Lodge No. 171 were assigned by W. M. Durgee to organize a “Masonic pilgrimage” to the George Washington Masonic Memorial and various other sites in August. When the President of The Master Mason Association, W. Ricardo Babilonia, found out about of this journey he asked if they would kindly place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on behalf of the 32nd Masonic District. Brother John Mitchell from Boca~Delray set up the ceremony to be held of Aug. 13th, at 9:15a.m. The Brothers present were (as pictured) R. W. David Lund, W. M. Scott Durgee, W. Rex Bradford and Bro. Gary Paxinos, as well as Bro. Sheldon Pittleman and Bro. Mark Angstrom, who were present and dutifully documented this profoundly moving occasion. The Ceremony ended with the Honor Guard Bugler’s mournful and solemn rendition of Taps.



# Brandon Masonic Lodge No. 114 Past Masters Still Have It

Brandon Masonic Lodge Number 114, located in Brandon, Florida, held its annual Past Master Called Communication on September 17th. The Past Masters conducted a Master Mason Degree in which Brother David Jason Wines was raised from Fellowcraft to the Master Mason Degree. Participating in the degree were, R. W. Edward Kellner, PM 2005, as Worshipful Master / King Solomon, W. Ron Green, PM 2004, as Senior Warden, R. W. Gene Hagan, PM 2006, as Junior Warden / Fellowcraft No.10, Worshipful Master David Wenzel Worshipful Master, 2015, as Secretary and delivered the Charge, R. W. Don Cowart, PM 2013, as Senior Deacon, R. W. Barry McAuley, PM 1980, as Junior Deacon, W. Rich Boettger, PM 2009, as Jubila, W. Pete Williams, PM 2007, as Jubilo, W. Ron Brimmer, PM 2002, as Jubilum, W. Barry Ben Butler, PM 2014, as Fellowcraft No.11, W. Herb Whisenant, PM 1995, as Fellowcraft No. 12, W. Roger Turgeon, PM Tampa Lodge No.240 as Sea Captain / Wayfaring Man. Brother Wines was raised by his Catechism Instructor, Brother Travis Brumbaugh. The lecture was delivered by Brother Jack Hampton, Senior Warden, Brandon Lodge.



The Degree was preceded by a seafood dinner prepared by Brother Wade Patterson, the Junior Warden, assisted by Brother Mark Anderson, the Brothers of the kitchen crew, and the Brandon Rainbow Girls. The dining room decorating was done by Dell Fennell and Helen Brown.

Brandon Masonic Lodge was issued its charter by the Grand Lodge of Florida in 1890. The Lodge has been located at the current location at 203 Moon Avenue since 1924. In addition contributing to the numerous Florida Grand Lodge charitable causes, Brandon Lodge is locally involved in Child ID, Adopt-a-School, Adopt-a-Teacher, Adopt-a-Highway, Boy Scouts, Red Cross Blood Drive, ECHO Food Pantry, and awards several college scholarships annually.

At a Stated Communication of Orange Park Lodge No. 267 on August 3, 2015, Most Worshipful Elmer Coffman Presented Worshipful Ned Hanson and Brother Carlton Wilkinson with their Forty Year Certificates and Pins.



L to R: W. Hanson; M. W. Coffman; Brother Wilkinson

# August Was A Busy Month At Englewood Lodge No. 360

August 18th was the Deputy District Grand Master's visit, along with his committeemen, to Englewood Lodge #360. Shown here is the lodge Master Denis Doome greeting Rite Worshipful Ronald Baber.



August 23rd was the regular bi-monthly Chicken BBQ. A special feature was an announced visit by the Big Red Bus. In addition to selling our regular meals, we collected 16 units of blood. We were extremely pleased and the Officials who made the blood collections told us they considered it a very successful event. We will do this again for the community.



August 27th was a special fund raising Spaghetti Dinner. The purpose was to raise funds for our Adopt-a-Teacher program. Regrettably attendance was not as high as expected. Pictured is Dan Van Alstine with wife Nancy as they prepare a carry out meal. Cody Daniels, Junior Deacon observes.



# A 99th Birthday Celebrated!

R. W. Richard Lanier of Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 342 was given a 99th Birthday Surprise at the 11th & 12th District Association meeting held at Stafford Caldwell Lodge on Sept. 23, 2015. Bro. Lanier was also presented a custom-made gavel by Bro. Tom Tercha of Stafford Caldwell. The Association Chairman and attendees, including P. G. M. Danny Griffith, were pleased to honor Bro. Lanier for his long service to the Fraternity.



Bro. Lanier's wife, Lady Evelyn, was also present for this celebration, held in the Lodge Fellowship Hall prior to the meeting. The special cake, furnished by W. M. Don Maier and members of Stafford Caldwell Lodge, was presented by the Rainbow Girls of Jacksonville Rainbow Assembly No. 21. Happy 99th Birthday, Bro. Lanier!



# DORIC Lodge No. 140 Passes Six To Fellow Craft

Doric Masonic Lodge No. 140 passed six Entered Apprentices to the degree of Fellow Craft in a moving, traditional ceremony. The six – Pierre Rolle, Christopher Gosselin, Derrick Karadi, Luay Sweilem, Eduardo Gonzalez and Cliff Masselle had been instructed in their EA proficiency by the Lodge's Senior Deacon Andy Skowronek. The ceremony was led by Assistant Steward Brother John Macedon who sat in the East. Right Worshipful Nelson Rose delivered the lecture and Brother Michael Farber gave a stirring charge.



The Lodge and its new Fellow Craft were further honored to have the passing witnessed by our District Deputy Grand Master Phil Dixon. The Right Worshipful DDGM also presented a Masonic Leadership Training Diploma and pin to Brother Barry Deutsch who was sitting as Junior Steward for the evening.

Doric Lodge's new Fellow Craft Class. Instructor Any Skowronik is shown in first row left. John Macedon, sitting in the East for the event is in back row second from left. To Macedon's left is the Lodge's Sitting Worshipful Master William LeCuyer.

# 50 Years A Mason Brother Colin Jones

Micanopy Lodge No. 29, Micanopy, Florida was proud to Present Brother Colin Jones, Chaplain (center) his 50-year Service Award on behalf of Ruth Lodge No. 89, Grand Lodge of Virginia. Colin is an affiliated dual Member.

Presenting this award on June 18, 2015 was Historian, Brother Cary McCollum (right) and Senior Warden, Brother Bill Knight (left).





# Ashlar Lodge No. 98 Holds Past Masters – Master Masons Degree

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 in St. Augustine, FL, celebrated St. John’s Night on Wednesday, June 24, 2015, by conducting a Past Masters’ Degree and Raising four Fellow Crafts to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

The four Fellow Crafts Raised in Due and Ancient Form were Bros. Alberto Crespo, Nicholas Edward Cunningham, Brian Arthur Iannucci, and Patrick Erving McGee. Bro. Crespo is Dean of Students at St. Augustine High School; Bro. Cunningham is Member of the Florida National Guard and a West Point appointee who will enter the Military Academy in July 2015; Bro. Iannucci is a professor at Western Governors University; and Bro. McGee is a Service Operations Consultant at Briggs Equipment Co.

Bro. Cunningham is a very new Mason having been Initiated, Passed and Raised in a period of two months. He did his Entered Apprentice Proficiency about a month after Initiation and his Fellow Craft Proficiency 10 days after being Passed.

W.: Garrett Wolfe, Past Master of Ashlar Lodge No. 98, sat in the East for both parts of the Degree. Other Members of the Degree Team were by W.: Wade Taylor, P.M., W.: Chris Cannan, R.: W.: Ken Lowery, PDDGM, Bro. Robert Wilson, W.: Robert Gagnon, P.M., W.: George Summerer, PM, Bro. David Pierucci, W.: Mike Grace, P.M., W.: Hank DeBerry, P.M., W.: David Braddock, P.M., R.: W.: J.B. Hunt, P.D.D.G.M., Bro. Oscar Patterson, W.: Jim Davis, PM, M.: W.: Robert P. Harry, PGM, Bro. Ron DeRocco, and W.: Ted Cassford, P.M.

The Lecture for the Degree was delivered by Bro. Patterson and the Charge and Bible Presentation by W.: Gagnon.

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 in St. Augustine holds Stated Communications on the 1st and 3th Thursdays of each month with the meal beginning at 6:30 pm and the Communication at 7:30 pm. First and third Thursdays are reserved for Degree Work and practice. All regular Masons are invited to join their Brothers at Ashlar No.98, 105 King St., St. Augustine, FL.

# Brother Bryan Bingham Of Gulf Beach Lodge Honored

Brother Bryan Bingham, a member of Gulf Beach Lodge No.291 in Madeira Beach, Florida and a Pinellas County Sheriff’s sergeant seen on video that went viral breaking up a fight on St. Pete Beach was among two deputies honored with the first Deputy of the Quarter Bright Star Award.



The award was established in partnership with Bright House Networks, the parent company of Bay News 9. It will honor one law enforcement deputy and one detention deputy with the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office who have gone above and beyond in the performance of their duties.

Sergeant Bryan Bingham, 43, was honored for his actions on St. Pete Beach in March where he was able to single-handedly and safely subdue two men the sheriff’s office say were intoxicated.

“While faced with multiple factors against him to include, the heat, the crowd, and the drinking, Sergeant Bingham was able to detain the individuals and prevent a potentially volatile situation from escalating. Sergeant Bingham's actions were captured on video, prompting media attention from around the world, interviews, and speaking engagements,” according to a release by the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office.

Sgt. Bryan Bingham has been with the sheriff’s office since 1999.

# Fish feast At Micanopy Lodge No. 29

Micanopy Lodge No. 29 Shrimp Fest was held Friday, October 2, 2015 at the Lodge. Shrimp Four Ways, Salmon and Gumbo with sides of grits, coleslaw and hushpuppies, plus a drink and dessert. Great food and fellowship was had by all while benefitting the scholarship/general fund. The Shrimp Fest has become a Micanopy No. 29 tradition.



# Esoteric Masonry....

When I was a younger Mason (Note I said younger vs. young - I refuse to consider myself old), I was obsessed with esoteric concepts. I wanted to know the secret mysteries, mystical revelations, and sacerdotal spirituality. So like most people interested in these topics, I dove into Manly Hall’s Secret Teachings of All Ages. It was an amazing read and I learned a lot. As time went on I grew frustrated because Masonry wasn’t as esoteric and mystical as I thought. So I thought Masonry needed to be fixed and that there was something wrong with Masonry.

I was wrong.

Masonry is many things to many people. So to assume

that I knew better completely disregarded the centuries of Masons prior to me as they are what made Masonry what it is. It is our (yours and mine) responsibility to carry Masonry into the future. In order to do this, and I have said this before, we can’t just be looking back; we have to look forward.

But... We are a moral institution, veiled in allegory... Surely this implies the Esoteric.

What if Esoteric is something altogether different then what some of us think?

Leo Strauss proposed that the classical and medieval art of esoteric writing was the proper medium for philosophic learning. So rather than displaying philosophers' thoughts in a direct manner, the greatest of the classical and medieval philosophical texts indirectly guided their readers in thinking

# A Meaningful Masonic Experience: The Key To Increasing Lodge Participation

By George Waas, P.D.D.G.M.

That membership and participation are declining sharply is well-understood by all Masons who dearly love our Fraternity. The Grand Lodge Leaders are currently engaging the Brothers in a meaningful and needed conversation about membership, specifically addressing consolidation and merger of Lodges. I suggest that, while this approach certainly deals with Lodges that are having difficulties remaining viable, it does not address the more fundamental problem of loss of Brothers through nonpayment of dues (NPD).

There is a silver lining, however. And it is not a difficult one to pull off. A possible answer lies in the Grand Lodge Masonic Education Program.

At a meeting of the Scottish Rite Council of 100 a few years ago, an official from the Supreme Council intimated that if the Fraternity is going to have any chance of succeeding in retaining membership and encouraging Lodge Attendance, the Brothers must be given a meaningful Masonic Experience at each Lodge Meeting.

By a meaningful Masonic Experience, I am referring to a Masonic Education Program at each stated communication that involves all of the symbols that are contained within the Lodge; as well as the signs, words and phrases, grips and allegorical teachings.

My suggestion is that at each stated communication, a Brother would talk about one symbol, etc., for five to ten minutes-longer depending on the subject. Each Lodge’s Masonic Education Chairman would be charged with assigning a Brother to cover a particular topic, and the assigned Brother would conduct the necessary research and prepare a talk. And since repetition is a wonderful educational tool, these talks can be given again and again on a rotating basis so that there will always be a Masonic Education Program at each Lodge Stated Communication that covers a Masonic Subject. And by announcing each program in the Trestleboard (or other means of informing the Brothers ) well in advance of the communication, perhaps we just might turn around the growing number of NPDs.

This is a direct and simple approach to a vexing problem. It should be obvious that a Brother who chooses to go NPD is not getting what he wants from his Lodge. Perhaps what he wants is that meaningful Masonic Experience. This may not be THE answer to the NPD problem, but it certainly can't hurt to try it.

For the Particular Lodges to buy into this plan will require leadership and support of the elected Grand Lodge Officers. Perhaps all that will be necessary is to simply add the teachings of the symbols, etc., as a component to the teaching of the Digest of Masonic Law.

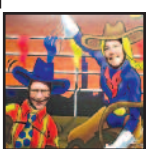
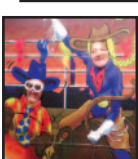
Lodges could certainly do this voluntarily, but leadership at the top of the Craft voicing their support for this proposal will certainly spur all Lodges to provide this form of education and thereby address the need to provide a meaningful Masonic Experience. While much of what would be in these talks is contained in the three lectures, those lectures are not given that frequently; they don't discuss these subjects in any detail; and there is an information overload in the manner in which they are given. The short talks on the symbols, etc., at each stated communications will only reinforce the teachings of the three lectures. In other words, it's a win-win situation.

While this proposal may not solve our NPD problem, it will certainly give the Brothers a meaningful Masonic Experience at each stated communication.

# It’s Was A Great Hoedown

Pineland Lodge No. 86 held a western hoedown fundraiser for the First Ladies Project on June 6th 2015 and it was a huge success! Supper of pulled pork, chicken, and all fixin’s was served to about 100 and a dessert auction was held after with Right Worshipful Ken Hinton as our auctioneer!! We raised upwards of \$1,700.00 which will be presented at our Grand Masters Official Visit on 9-12-15.

A great time was had by all who attended Pineland Lodge No. 86. Pineland Lodge No. 86 hosted the fund raiser for the 1st Lady's Project, remodeling of the beauty parlor and barber shop at The Masonic Home of Florida. Great turnout with the Grand Master and several of the Grand Lodge Officers in attendance.



# Winter Garden Lodge PM Raise Four New Master Masons

At a called communication on Saturday, July 25th, the Past Masters of Winter Garden Lodge No. 165 F&AM conferred the Master Mason Degree on four brothers. Three of the brothers are members of Winter Garden Lodge and the fourth a member of Leesburg Lodge No. 58. We were happy to have performed this courtesy work for our neighbors. The Past Masters executed a nearly flawless performance, impressing upon the new brothers the importance of time and dedication to your vocations and the enjoyment that can be derived from good fellowship. An outstanding breakfast was laid out by our Junior Warden W.:B.: Clawson Peacock along with the aid of his stewards. Appreciation goes out to the Bahia Shrine Past Masters Unit for their assistance with the degree as well as thanks to R.:H.: Bill Valentino for the fine delivery of the Master Mason lecture. We welcome these new Master Masons and look forward to future accomplishments within the Fraternity.



and learning independently.

So here is the fusion of allegory and esotericism. This was a concept that Socrates was a proponent of, where good writing provokes questions in the reader—questions that orient the reader towards an understanding of problems the author thought about with utmost seriousness.

So the hidden wisdom or secrets of Freemasonry are not really secrets per se. The esoteric element is actually the search within yourself. Finding what it takes to make you a better man. The “key” of Masonry unlocks the “you” that you never knew you were.

-Nelson Rose, PM



# Let’s Have Some Fun And Productivity At Our Meetings

Worshipful Master Alex Carambas rapped the gavel to get everyone's attention. Then the fun began. With the help of the District Deputy, District Committeemen, District Instructor and a wonderful SUPPER, a great time was had by all who attended Lodge that night for the District Deputies visit.

Twenty nine Masons and wives exchange conversations jokes and laughter and made this night memorable. Who would have thought that a pair of RED socks could be such fun?

I am not sure which of the Grand Line Officers thought it up, but it has really taken off. Not only was the DDGM and District Instructor wearing them, but now, even many of the Committeeman were also wearing them. Hey they match the tie! LOL (laugh out loud).

Right Honorable Jon Davies gave a heartfelt talk to the Brothers concerning District Instructions. It is amazing how much of a turn around these meeting have had in the last few years. We are lucky that we have people who are thinking out of the box. By taking Instructions to the different Lodges attendance has soured. One month it is in District 1 and the next in District 2 at a different Lodge each time. We, in District 1 and 2 work together, in almost every endeavor, to accomplish our goals. For example our committeemen on their first round of visits give the program and what they are trying to achieve. On the second round they talk about what they have achieved or new ideas to make that program work better. One good idea that Worshipful Bob Denard brought up was to have Masonic Leadership Training either in Lodge for education or better yet, at the end of supper before opening Lodge. We are using this approach now and our numbers are soaring.

The Grand Masters message, on the second go around, is being well received. Several Brothers have asked for a copy to use as education for our Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts.

Thank you Most Worshipful Jim Ford for such an inspiring message. As the Grand Master said "We need to have fun in our meetings". So on that note Worshipful Bob Pilgrim said of the picture he took “I have the perfect place to hang it “The guys in the picture are a little nervous about that.

With Friendship and Brotherly Love. Alex Carambas - Worshipful Master, Escambia Lodge No. 15

# Family/Widows Night At J. Wendell Fargis Lodge No. 356

On Thursday night, June 17th, at J. Wendell Fargis Lodge No.356, over 50 Brothers and Sisters enjoyed a Family/Widows night. We had two presentations where Brother Herb Lewis was presented his 55 Yr. Pin and Certificate and Gigi Barfield was presented her Widows pin and Certificate. It was a pot luck dinner with an assortment of food along with music provided by Brother Barney Thornton and Brother Terry Dillyhon's Band. All had a great time.



# Grand Master Visits “Friendly” 10th Masonic District

Friday, July 24, 2015, M.: W.: Steven P. Boring, Grand Master of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida, made his “Official Visit” to the "Friendly" 10th Masonic District. The Visit began at the Hal Maines Community Center in Lake Butler, and a Tiled Lodge was held in Lake Butler Lodge No. 52 after an outstanding supper. Lynn Luther and his wife, Linda, provided entertainment for the Eastern Star Ladies and the other women while the men adjourned to the Lodge.

The first photo shows W.: Gene Bertine, the Worshipful Master of Brooker's Pine Hill Lodge No. 9, making several presentations to the Grand Master. The monetary donations included one to the Grand Master’s favorite charity and another monetary donation to Mary Jane, the First Lady, for her Masonic Home Project in St. Petersburg. Additionally, the Grand Master was honored with an honorary membership to Pine Hill Lodge. The other seven lodges in the 10th District also made presentations to the Grand Master and his Lady.

Additional photos show some of the Members and guest of the 10th District. About 200 Freemasons and guests statewide were present for the Visit that R.: W.: John Paul Mann, District Deputy Grand Master of the “Friendly” 10th District, Scott Roberts, District Instructor and Weldon “Buddy” Barton, the Worshipful Master of Sanderson Lodge No. 122 hosted.



# DORIC Lodge No. 140 Passes Six To Fellow Craft

Doric Masonic Lodge No. 140 Passed six Entered Apprentices to the Degree Of Fellow Craft in a moving, traditional Ceremony. The six – Pierre Rolle, Christopher Gosselin, Derrick Karadi, Luay Sweilem, Eduardo Gonzalez and Cliff Masselle had been instructed in their EA Proficiency by the Lodge’s Senior Deacon Andy Skowronek. The Ceremony was led by Assistant Steward Brother John Macedon who sat in the East.

Right Worshipful Nelson Rose Delivered the Lecture and Brother Michael Farber gave a stirring Charge.

The Lodge and its new Fellow Craft were further honored to have the Passing Witnessed by our District Deputy Grand Master Phil Dixon. The Right Worshipful DDGM also Presented a Masonic Leadership Training Diploma and Pin to Brother Barry Deutsch who was sitting as Junior Steward for the evening.



Doric Lodge’s New Fellow Craft Class. Instructor Andy Skowronek is shown in first row left. John Macedon, sitting in the East for the event is in back row second from left. To Macedon’s left is the Lodge’s sitting Worshipful Master William LeCuyer.

# 55 Years a Mason - W.: Garland White

On September 15th Worshipful Garland A. White was recognized for 55 years of service to the Masonic Fraternity and his community. That evening, W.:Garland with his wife Norma Sue, were recognized before the regular stated meeting. W.:Garland’s home Lodge is Boynton Lodge No. 236 located in Boynton Beach, Florida. W.:Garland was Worshipful Master there in 1967. He and his wife now call Englewood home. Right Worshipful Gene Jeffers conducted the ceremony and Worshipful Master Denis Doome presented his awards.



We could tell Norma was accustomed to keeping Garland looking spiffy by the way she stepped forward to attach the pin to his shirt.

Upon conclusion of the formal proceedings, the principal players: Gene, Norma, Garland, and Denis, take time out to pose for a picture with a proud Mason and his Lady.

# Grand Master Visits 21st Masonic District

The Grand Master of Masons of the State of Florida, Most Worshipful Steven P. Boring, made his official visit to this area on Saturday July 18th. Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge No. 291, located in Madeira Beach, was pleased to take part in this official visit and welcome the Most Worshipful Grand Master to the Gulf Beaches.

The official visit was held at the Masonic Home of Florida scenically located on Coffee Pot Bayou in the old Northeast section of St. Petersburg. A wonderful dinner was prepared and over three hundred Masons and their ladies were in attendance.

The Grand Master was also made an honorary member of Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge and Presented a Certificate of Membership by the Worshipful Master of Gulf Beach Lodge, Brother Travis Palladeno, who also, as Mayor of Madeira Beach, Presented the Grand Master a key to the city.

Planning and running the visit was Right Worshipful Derryl B. O’Neal, the District Deputy Grand Master of the 21st Masonic District, covering central and south Pinellas County. Right Worshipful O’Neal, who is the Fire Chief of Madeira Beach, presented the Grand Master a certificate making him an Honorary Firefighter for Madeira Beach Fire Department.



Travis Palladeno, W.:M.: (left) presenting the Grand Master, Steven P. Boring and his Lady, Mary Jane the key to the city



Derryl B. O’Neal welcoming the Grand Master

# 25 Years a Mason At Englewood Lodge No. 360

In 1989 Peter McIvers began his Masonic Journey here in Englewood, Florida. On April 11th, he petitioned to become a Master Mason and was initiated an Entered Apprentice. On August 22nd, 1989 he was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft and on October 24th he was raised to Master Mason. He became Master of Englewood Lodge No. 360 on January 1st, 1994. Brother Peter held several other offices in the Lodge and the District. At the District level he was a Zone Chairman, Masonic Renewal Committeeman; Wills and Gifts Committeeman; and MH100 Committeeman. Brother Peter is still busy at the helm of his business and was unable to attend Lodge to receive his award. The present Lodge Master, W.: Denis Doome delegated the responsibility to see that Brother Peter, a Perpetual Member, was given his award. Consequently, Rite Worshipful Gary Schroeder, also a former Master of the Lodge, traveled to his office to accomplish the task. Brother Gary conducted the ceremony and presented the award.

Gary’s wife kindly took the photograph.



# Phoenix Lodge No. 346 Holds EA Degree

On June 30th, Phoenix Lodge No. 346 held an Entered Apprentice Degree. Our Senior Deacon James Duffy presiding in the East did another outstanding job. Our Junior Deacon Scott Richards took on the role of Senior Deacon, conducting our candidates for the evening, and our Senior Steward Chris Rich sat in the Junior Deacon station. Our new Entered Apprentice’s were conducted by our new Fellowcrafts and our guest lecturer Brother James McGill from Sarasota Lodge No. 147. The newest brothers are Konstantin G. Chelnokov, William H. Franklin Jr., Thomas Prieto and Alexander Villegas. It must be said that the degree team did a fantastic job.

The Entered Apprentice Lecture was given by Brother James McGill from Sarasota Lodge No. 147, who told the story of the Entered Apprentice in a manner that our new Brothers learned something, along with brothers who have heard this lecture before. A job well done.



L to R: Thomas Prieto, Alexander Villegas, Konstantin G. Chelnokov, William H. Franklin, JR Degree Master SD James Duffy

# 75 Years a Masonic Lodge

On April 17, 2015, Ribault Lodge No. 272 in Jacksonville Beach celebrated the 75th anniversary of our Charter with a pot-luck



Family Night Supper. Under the leadership of Worshipful Master Brian Powell, this occasion was attended by about 50 friends and family and brothers of this Lodge. A brief history of the Lodge since its time as a UD Lodge (1939) to its Charter (1940) and up to the present was given by W.: Gary Stengl. Good eats and fellowship were enjoyed by all.





# Ribault Lodge Recognizes Members

Several Members of Ribault Lodge No. 272 at Jacksonville Beach have been awarded Service Certificates and Pins by the Grand Lodge of Florida over the past few months:

Ribault Lodge also had the privilege of Presenting a 50 Year Certificate and Pin to Brother Don Muller at the request of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. Don is a Member of Tipton Lodge No. 226 in Munford, TN.



# Most Worshipful Steven P. Boring, Visits 11th And 12th Districts

Most Worshipful Grand Master Steven P. Boring, M.W.G.M. of Masons of Florida, visited the 11th and 12th Masonic Districts in Jacksonville on Saturday, July 15, 2015. The well-attended dinner and meeting were held at the Scottish Rite Center.

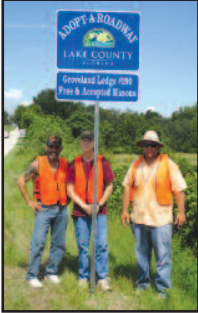


*Pictured here, M.:W.: Steven Boring holds up a special gavel presented to him by R.:W.: Corey Kosciuszko, DDGM, District 12, and R.:W.: Samuel Bennett, DDGM of District 11.*

# Groveland Lodge No. 190 - Adopt-A-Road Program

Groveland Lodge No. 190 was recently approved by Lake County Road Operations to assume responsibility for Simon Brown Road in South Lake County for their Adopt-A-Road program. Simon Brown Road was named for the father of Right Worshipful S. T. Brown, Jr., who now serves as the Lodge Secretary of Groveland Lodge. Appropriately, R.:W.: Brown's residence is the only one on the 1.75 mile road which runs between S.R. 33 and Villa City Road.

In agreement with Lake County Road Operations, Groveland Lodge No. 190 will schedule quarterly trash pickups on Simon Brown Road to keep the road as clean as possible. There was a work party on June 27th for trash pickup and another one will be scheduled for September.



# Umatilla No. 65 Awards Dinner

By W.: David Rosenthal

On June 22nd, Umatilla No. 65 held an awards dinner where many Certificates were presented including a Master Mason Membership Certificate to Bro. Bud Wendt, Two 25 year Certificates to R.: W.: Randolph Chavers and Bro. Ron Girardin, One 40 year Certificates to Bro. Pete Ruby, and One 50 Year Certificate to W.: Thomas Lovejoy. Congratulations to all who received their awards.



# Florida Masons Travel to the Tri-State Degree

Florida Masons traveled to Georgia to participate in the Tri-State Degrees held at Tyrian Lodge No. 111, Warner Robins, Georgia on Saturday, July 25. Attendees from Florida were; front row, left to right, Brother Steven Bailey, DeFuniak No. 170, Brother Chester Willis, Concord No. 50, R.:H.: Robert Taylor, W.: Dennis Clark and Brother Andrew Weaver of Okaloosa No. 312 and Brother Robert Anderson of Valley-Hi Lodge No. 1407, San Antonio, Texas; Back Row, from left; W.: Roderic Mouer, Brother Jason Lynch and R.:W.: Ken Eichorn of Okaloosa No. 312. Attending but not pictured was Worshipful Master Eric Horne of Olin S. Wright No. 79.



# Orange Park Lodge No. 267 Honors Distinguished Past Master

Worshipful Lief Olsen (Left), Master of Orange Park Lodge No. 267 honored Past Master of 1986, W.: C.J. Kicklighter (Center). With the assistance of M.: W.: Elmer Coffman, PGM (Right), Worshipful Kicklighter's extensive Masonic History was read, then W.: Kicklighter was presented with a Certificate commemorating this event.



# Lewis Jewel Presentation And History

Elmer O. Smith Masonic Lodge No. 307, located at 5021 75th Ave North, Pinellas Park, recently witnessed the presentation of the Lewis Jewel by Bro. Dean Sever to his son, W.:M.: Mike Sever, at a Stated Communication.

In the days of operative Masonry, it was a great source of pride when a son followed in his father's footsteps and was "Entered" as an Apprentice, his name entered on the roll, and thereby admitted to the Lodge. To study his father's skills and learn to use his father's tools were manifest expressions of the greatest honor and esteem a son could pay. It was common to carry on the tradition through several generations in the same family. So what is a "Lewis" and how does it apply to Masonry?

A "Lewis" is a simple but ingenious device employed by operative Masons to raise heavy blocks of dressed stone into place. It consists of three metal parts: two wedge-shaped side pieces, and a straight center piece, that fit together (tenon). A dovetailed recess is cut into the top of the stone block (mortise). The outer pieces are inserted first and then spread by the insertion of the centerpiece. The three parts are then bolted together, a metal ring or shackle is attached and the block is hoisted by hook, rope and pulley. By this means, the block is gripped securely. Once set in its place in the structure, the "Lewis" is removed leaving the upper surface smooth with no clamp or chains on the outside to interfere with the

laying of the next stone.

A paragraph in a version of the Junior Warden's lecture used in the Grand Lodge of England dating from 1801 gives this instructive explanation, "the word Lewis denotes strength, and is here depicted by certain pieces of metal dovetailed into a stone, which forms a cramp, and enables the operative Mason to raise great weights to certain heights with little encumbrance, and to fix them in their proper bases. Lewis likewise denotes the son of a Mason; his duty is to bear the heat and burden of the day, from which his parents, by reason of age, ought to be exempts; to help them in time of need, and thereby render the close of their days happy and comfortable; his privilege for so doing is to be made a Mason before any other person however dignified. It is a heartwarming day when a young man first shows interest in Freemasonry and asks his father how he might become a Mason, and it is a proud day when that son, in the fullness of time, is admitted a member into the Masonic Brotherhood."

Bro. Dean Sever concluded the presentation with these words: "It is my honor and pleasure to present you My Son and My Brother this Lewis award. Wear it with pride."

By; Bro. Richard Kimberley



# Ornan Lodge No. 117 Dedicates Monument To First Worshipful Master

On Saturday, May 9, 2015, the Members of Ornan Lodge No. 117 in Williston, Florida, dedicated a foot stone at the grave of Worshipful George Martin Gunnels, who was the First Worshipful Master of Ornan Lodge No. 117 in 1890. The Lodge celebrated its 125th Anniversary with a public ceremony of Re-Consecration, Re-Dedication, and Re-Constitution by the Grand Lodge Officers on January 24, 2015. The well attended event included the M.: W.: Grand Master of Masons of Florida, James W. Ford, the Sheriff of Levy County, the Mayor of Williston, and other dignitaries.

Worshipful Gunnels was a Major in the Confederate Army serving humanity as a surgeon, on many battlefields. He is buried with his wife at Wachahoota Cemetery just north of Williston on Hwy 121.

The Worshipful Master Called the Lodge at Ease and the Brethren proceeded to the Wachahoota Cemetery, where Prayer was given by R.: W.: Art Bishel, Lodge Chaplain. W.: David Bruce Alford then stated the reason for this ceremony, "We are here today to dedicate this stone to the memory of W.: George Martin Gunnels, the first Worshipful Master of Ornan Lodge No. 117." The Secretary read the information attached which was known about W.: Gunnels. The Worshipful Master then expressed his thanks on behalf of the Lodge to Brother Carl Pinkston who donated the stone. The Chaplain then was asked to lead the prayer. The Ceremony was then closed and the Brethren proceeded back to the Lodge to close the Lodge.

Ornan Lodge also dedicated a Perpetual Membership to the Memory of all the Past Masters of the Lodge in his name. When \$200.00 is collected the name of the next Master is placed on the plaque; since November 2013, when the program started, there have been 20 Past Masters placed on the plaque and thereby increases the return of that Perpetual Membership

# Rainbow Girls Visit Greenville Lodge No. 28

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 28 was treated on June 9, 2015 with a visit from Rainbow Assembly No. 64 of Tallahassee, Fla. Each of the girls took turns explaining how they became involved in the Rainbows and what it has meant to them. This was a great opportunity for the Masons to learn more about this Masonic Youth Organization. The Rainbow Girls are a Masonic Youth Organization and this group of young ladies is sponsored by Jackson Masonic Lodge No. 1 in Tallahassee, Fl.

*Pictured are the Rainbow Girls along with Members of the Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 28.*



# W.: Hank DeBerry Gets Wet

Recently, at a Masters & Wardens meeting of the 18th Masonic District, President W.: Hank DeBerry asked the District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Alan Heist, if he would mind getting wet for a good cause. It turns out he has a bum back and couldn't do it but he decided to turn the tables on W.: Hank and "volunteer" him to take his place.

There just happened to be a Past Grand Master (M.: W.: Dale Gehrig) at the meeting that night, who spoke up and said "I have \$20 if you take pictures!" So the Ice Bucket plunge for was started. Money flew to the table like a fly to honey! Raised was \$600 dollars for the Grand Masters Masonic Youth Program and the Florida Sheriff's Boys Ranch.

The Challenge took place at Mt. Dora Lodge on the evening of September 14, 2015 right before a meeting of Rainbow Assembly No. 79. The girls all had a laugh, W.: DeBerry got wet (and cold)!

Many thanks to Mt. Dora Lodge No. 238 for allowing this event at the Donnelly House and to the Brothers who poured oh so slowly over W.:DeBerry's slightly frozen bald head. A special Thanks to the Rainbow girls and their leaders for their support and being there every time a Lodge has asked them, this was for you ladies!



# 25 Years A Mason

On September 21, 2105 at a Stated Communication of Orange Park Lodge No. 267, M.: W.: Elmer Coffman, PGM, Presented R.:W.: Patrick Farrell with his 25 Year Pin and Certificate.





# What Is Our Future?

After listening to Most Worshipful Stephen P. Boring speak at one of his Official Visits there were points that struck a chord in my mind.

First, he talked about getting back to the basics which has been a strong common thread for both himself and his predecessors. Going back to the basics is a true remedy for anyone or any organization that finds that they have lost their winning tempo. Without following the basics needed to perform as a professional, success is just an elusive dream.

Secondly, the Most Worshipful talked about the values that each of us should possess. The ability to stay true to yourself and all mankind around you. How your word and your handshake should be your bond. How those values are necessary if we want to be always able to pass the initial test we all took when petitioning Freemasonry. In everyday life do we have the moral character, integrity and values to pass acceptance by Freemasonry at the ballot box as we once did?

No matter how I analyzed the brief discourse, what I found is that personal values must be in a man if he is to perform as a true and upright Freemason. Going further we all must ask ourselves “How did we receive our moral values”? After the Second World War we received our moral training from our family members during our earliest years. Our values were initially reinforced during early schooling and later completely grounded in our makeup through life experiences. Then things changed.

In today’s world, are any moral values really being taught? Do children today really receive what they need to be good and upright members of society or just how to get ahead. Are they learning from good moral teachers or are they just acquiring random ideas as they drifted through their years into adulthood? Are moral values even needed in the society we are now living in?

Having been a Freemason since 1973 it is hard for me to see the future of Freemasonry. In the 1950’s and 1960’s the family unit and strong moral values were the main core of society. The values you were taught had true meaning and value.

Somewhere in the late 1980’s and 1990’s the family unit started to crumble and so did our values. If we want our society to change back to the basics taught in the 1950’s and 60’s we have to start refocusing our attention back to the youth, the family unit and a strong moral compass.

In today’s fast paced society are real values even present? How many families go to Church? How many children are ever seen inside a Church? How many families pray before a meal? Does telling the truth really mean stating the honest facts regardless of the possible outcome? How much does society really care about the truth? Does it really matter if you knowingly wrong someone? A good portion of our society now believes that everyone can do whatever it takes to get ahead, regardless of who it hurts. So where is our society today? In today’s society does the family unit really matter? Is texting the only way we now communicate? If we are truly a product of our environment and what we have learned during our lives then what are our values?

Is it too late to make a difference? I say NO. If you have children and maybe even grand children, start by explaining to them why love for their family is more important than their smart phones, ipads and computers. Why it is important to talk to one another. Why it is important to go to Church with their family members. Explain why it is important to do things as a family unit like everyone gathering for a good family meal with real conversations. Tell them that without a good moral family life they will not have the values that are really important for a good life.

Finally whenever possible, encourage them to consider joining one of our Masonic Youth Groups. If you want Freemasonry to have a future, start with the basics; Our Youth and Masonic Family values.

R.:W.: Frank C. Kaminski, 7th Masonic District

# Ashlar Lodge No. 98 Finalizing Major Renovations

Ashlar Lodge No. 98 is finalizing major renovations of its Lodge located on King Street in St. Augustine. The most noticeable change is the new mansard roof on the front of the building.

Additional renovations include repair of the stucco wall on the north side of the Lodge as well as painting other walls, power washing the brick façade, and new stucco under the walkway. Finally, the dining area is being repainted and will include wainscoting and a chair rail. Display cases have been added to house the Lodge’s Archives which include documents from 1755, 1823, 1842, and 1879 as well as records from both Ancient Lodge and Ashlar Lodge.

Previously, the Lodge converted an empty lot on the south side of the Lodge into parking which will be managed to benefit the Lodge. The main parking lot will provide ample parking for Brothers. All renovations will be completed in time for the 450th celebration of the founding of St. Augustine scheduled for early September 2015.

# Grandfather Raises Grandson To Master Mason Degree

On August 20, 2015, Bro. Gerald Albino Azul was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 342, by his grandfather, who traveled to Jacksonville from San Diego, Calif., especially for this occasion.

The event started with the Lodge being opened by its oldest member, R.:W.: Richard Lanier (PDDGM of District 12), who in turn relinquished the chair to the youngest member of the Lodge, Bro. Randy Harris, who presented the first section. The second section was presented by W.: Bayani Diokno (PM of Micronesia Lodge No. 173).

The lecture was eloquently delivered by R.:W.: Tony “the Irishman” Chavez (PDDGM of District 11); the charge was forcefully delivered by Bro. Gerald’s grandfather, Bro. Gil Azul, followed by the presentation of the Bible by W.: Eddie Bides; and the closing charge was meaningfully delivered by R.:W.: Joey Delacruz (PDDGM of District 10).

The entire activity was directed by W.:M.: Donald Maier, current sitting Master of Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 342. As well as members of Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 342, the event was attended by numerous members of various lodges of the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Masonic Districts, including R.:H.: Jessie Tiner (DI of District 11). We also welcomed members of Sigonella, Sicily and Travelers Lodge.



Bro. Gerald Azul is the young man in the blue shirt and white apron, in the center of the picture, with his grandfather to his right.

# Brother Earl Carlton - 55 Years A Mason

Recently Brother Earl Carlton was presented his 55-year service award. Brother Earl petitioned the Duke of Kent Lodge No. 121 of Halifax, Nova Scotia on April 19, 1960 and was initiated an Entered Apprentice. In May he was passed to Fellow Craft and on June 21, 1960 was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. As a Master Mason Earl traveled to most of the lodges in Nova Scotia. Then in June of 1962 Brother Earl moved to New Jersey and Hobart Lodge. He remained there until 1988 when he moved to Florida. In April of 2008 he demitted from Duke of Kent Lodge No. 121 and affiliated on June 3, 2008 with Englewood Lodge No. 360. He now calls Rotunda home for himself and wife Joan. Brother Earl turned 85 on February 14. Rite Worshipful Gene Jeffers conducted the ceremony at Earl’s home. Worshipful Master Denis Doome presented the award. Brothers Bill Boyer and Hal Neubauer attended.



Gene Jeffers, left, conducts ceremony. Bill Boyer and Denis Doome will make award presentation. Earl, wearing his Nova Scotia Masonic apron, Joan, his wife at his side.



Earl Carlton shows Gene and Denis location of new recognition certificate below service award in Masonic corner of his den

# August Busy Month At Englewood Lodge No. 360

August 18th was the Deputy District Grand Master's visit, along with his committeemen, to Englewood Lodge No. 360. Shown here is the Lodge Master Denis Doome greeting Right Worshipful Ronald Baber.



August 23rd was the regular bi-monthly Chicken BBQ. A special feature was an announced visit by the Big Red Bus. In addition to selling our regular meals, we collected 16 units of blood. We were extremely pleased and the Officials who made the blood collections told us they considered it a very successful event. We will do this again for the community.



August 27th was a special fund raising Spaghetti Dinner. The purpose was to raise funds for our Adopt-a-Teacher program. Regrettably attendance was not as high as expected. Pictured is Dan Van Alstine with wife Nancy as they prepare a carry out meal. Cody Daniels, Junior Deacon observes.



# Leesburg Lodge No. 58 Supports Adopt-A-Teacher Program

The Brothers of Leesburg Lodge No. 58 once again supported the Adopt-A-Teacher program. Mrs. Elizabeth Carlson of Beverly Shores Elementary school was provided supplies that were needed in her class of “special needs” children. This was the second year the Lodge has supported this effort, we are pleased that she is happy with what we have gave her. Some of the things most needed were printer ink and paper, glue sticks, construction paper, folders and different types of snacks. You’re saying to yourself “why snacks?” Those are positive reinforcements for a job well done or an unexpectedly good piece of work turned in.



L to R: W.: Hank DeBerry; Paula DeBerry; W.:M.: Ron Glover; W.: John Haas; Tina Horvath; Mrs. Elizabeth Carlson; Bro. Richard Follett; Tonda Stockwell; Brenda Duff; and W.: Larry Duff

After the presentation, the Brothers and their wives all went to a local restaurant for dinner and great Fellowship.

# DDGM Ron Baber Visits Phoenix Lodge No. 346

Phoenix Lodge No. 346 in Sarasota, welcomed District Deputy Grand Master Ron Baber of Bradenton during an official visit on behalf of the Grand Master of Masons of Florida, Most Worshipful Stephen P. Boring.



Right Worshipful Baber was accompanied by his District Committeemen who spoke on matters concerning the Florida Masonic License Plate, the Masonic Home in St. Petersburg and other charitable activities.

The Worshipful Master of Phoenix Lodge, Paul Ritchie, thanked all who attended the meeting and pledged his Lodge’s continued support of all Masonic charities. The Grand Master's slogan this year is “Remembering the Past - Embracing the Future”

Phoenix Lodge No. 346 is one of the newest lodges in Southwest Florida and was consolidated from Cary B. Fish Lodge and The Builders Lodge in 2011. They meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 7:30 P.M. at the Scottish Rite building at 240 South Tuttle Avenue in Sarasota.

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Longevity Awards Presented

Bay Lodge No. 337 Presented Longevity Awards to three Worthy Brothers. Pictured from left to right: Bro. David Emory Jr. 40 Years of Membership, W.:M.:, Frank Sellars, Bro. Jim Wilson 50 Years of Membership and R.:W.: Harry R. (Bob) Davis 60 Years of Membership.



13th Masonic District Masons Of The Year

R.:W.: David Rich, District Deputy Grand Master of the 13th Masonic District, awarded two Mason of the year awards at the Grand Masters Official Visit to the 13th Masonic District on Sept. 12th, 2015. The awards were presented by M.:W.: Steve Boring, Grand Master of Masons of Florida too Brother Oscar Patterson, Junior Warden of Ashlar Lodge No. 98 and W.: Randall Bolen of Pineland Lodge No. 86. Both the Brothers express their gratitude for being recognized and awarded this honor.



"I Love America" At Pineland Lodge No. 86

Pineland Lodge No. 86 presented an American Flag that had flown over the United States Capitol Building in Washington, DC, to Kelly Smith Elementary School as part of our "I Love America" program on August 25, 2015. Presenters - to right are - Ray Cumbo, Rod Keeton, Randy Cumbo, Chase Barnes, Terry Dillard, Principal Tim Adams, P.:G.:M.: Robert Trump, Randy Bolen, Chad Wilkinson, Anthony Wellon, Floyd Bowen, and Johnnie Drew. We lowered the old Flag and hoisted the new one in its place!



Support the Florida Masonic Child ID Program.

The Florida Masonic Child ID Program is attempting to establish uniform policies and procedures across the state, making the program a cornerstone of Florida Masonic activity.

To this end, we need your financial support. Please make your 501(c)(3) tax deductible donation to this important and worthy program, in any amount your cable-tow will permit. Checks should be made out to Masonic Charities, Inc. with the words "Child ID" on the memo line, and can be sent to:

Masonic Charities of Florida, Inc.  
P.O.Box 1020  
Jacksonville, FL 32201



The Walter Fishback Chapter: Order Of DeMolay

On Saturday, August 8th, over 150 members, family and friends packed Riverview's DeSoto Masonic Lodge as the Lodge reached another significant milestone in its one hundred and twenty seven year history. The Walter Fishback Chapter of the Order of DeMolay was presented with their official charter from DeMolay International confirming them as an official Chapter within this international youth organization. The Walter Fishback Chapter of the Order of DeMolay is now official, after many years of dedication and work from some very devoted Members of their sponsoring body: DeSoto Masonic Lodge, and even more importantly, the young men within our local community who petitioned membership into this great organization and were initiated into its active membership. They will take center stage moving forward in their efforts to foster the growth of this new chapter that focuses on taking good young boys and turning them into responsible, high character young men.



The Order of DeMolay, which was established 1919, is a youth Fraternity for young men from ages of 12 to 21 of good character who acknowledge a higher spiritual and interpersonal power. It teaches the basics of good ethics, morality, love of parents, courtesy, community service, and Brotherly love. The organization instills leadership skills and accountability, always striving to do that which is both morally and ethically right. In Florida, a majority of the DeMolay chapters were established in the 1940's to 1970's which makes this event truly significant; it is the first charter presentation in the Tampa Bay area since the 1980's.

In 2010, Brother Jeff Kohl, a Mason from the east coast of Florida who was also a member of DeMolay as a young man, solicited the first steps of chapter sponsorship with DeSoto Lodge's sitting Worshipful Master, Don Campbell. Jeff worked in conjunction with DeMolay International to make Walter Fishback Chapter a reality. Today that dream of opening a new chapter not only came true, but also boasts one of the most active memberships within the state of Florida. The Chapter is named in honor of the late Walter Fishback, an influential member of our local community, who was involved in various Masonic and community organizations such as the Sun City Shrine Club and the Scottish Rite. He also served for many years as secretary for DeSoto Masonic Lodge, the sponsoring body that now hosts his namesake DeMolay chapter. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of the young men of this chapter, their parents, and the previous Member-elected leaders of this Chapter, Walter Fishback Chapter has grown substantially over the last five years from a struggling handful of members to a thriving chapter of 17 fine young men who are already doing great things within our local community and plan to continue this trend. The leader of the chapter is elected into the position known as the Master Councilor by his brethren. The newly elected Master Councilor, Cooper McKinlay, took the gavel with pride on Saturday and officially opened the Chapter under the newly issued charter for the very first time. According to Cooper, "It's an honor to hold the office of Master Councilor as a member of an official chapter, and I'm going to do my best to keep us moving in a good direction and bringing in new members.

These young men conduct their business meetings in a formal structured format, and the officers are dedicated to their assigned duties. Aside from the formal meetings, these young men also have fun planning and participating in various civic and social entertaining events. You may see them periodically cleaning the sides of Highway 301 in Riverview in conjunction with DeSoto Masonic Lodge, supporting the Florida Adopt-a-Highway program; one of many community support efforts in which they are involved, or you may see them at the local billiard hall, brushing up their 8-ball skills as newly crowned state champions in that discipline, the result of a recently held state-wide competition held between all Florida chapters. In any event, the members of Walter Fishback DeMolay are active in our local schools and community.

For more information on the Walter Fishback Chapter Order of DeMolay, please visit [www.FLDeMolay.org](http://www.FLDeMolay.org).

W.: Joe Garrett 50 Years A Mason

On Monday, April 6, 2015, at a Stated Communication of New Smyrna Lodge No. 149, F. & A. M., the Brothers and guests present had the privilege of witnessing W.: Joe Garrett receive his 50 year service award.



W.: Garrett was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on March 15, 1965, and during his 50 years of service, he has served The Craft at New Smyrna Lodge No. 149 as Senior Steward, Senior Deacon, Junior and Senior Warden, Tyler, and in 1987, Worshipful Master.

*On hand to present the award to W.: Garrett (center) was R.: W.: Thomas L. Turlington, Past District Deputy Grand Master (left), and acting Worshipful Master; Bro. Allan Baker (right).*

W.: Kilkenny Attracting Youth Through Handmade Cars And Trucks

Worshipful Master Tom Kilkenny of Morning Star Lodge No. 94 located in Silver Springs, Florida, certainly keeps himself busy. Since 2011, W.:Tom has been donating and making wooden cars and pickup trucks for children out of scrap pine wood. He makes an average of 200-300 vehicles per month in both 2013 and 2014, he donated 2,500 vehicles each year. Brother Kilkenny donates the vehicles to children at "Florida Masonic Child ID" events, to churches and to civic organizations.



To create his wonderful cars and trucks, Worshipful Tom uses very few tools: a miter saw, a table saw, a router, a hole saw, and a pneumatic brad nail gun. He starts with 2x4 and 1x2 wood and cuts them into 8" sections per vehicle. He also produces 1 3/4" wheels and buys 1/4" wooden towel sticks to create the axles. W.:Kilkenny leaves the wood plain so children may use crayons, paint and stickers to decorate the vehicles to their liking.

Last year, Worshipful Tom acquired a wood branding iron consisting of the Masonic Square and Compasses. It is felt that the Masonic Emblem would become familiar to the children and parents. And who knows...maybe one of these children will find a positive impact from receiving one of these wooden Masonic Cars and become interested enough to someday join our wonderful, global Fraternity.



Brothers, show your pride for our Great Fraternity and at the same time help your Grand Lodge with Masonic Charities of Florida, Inc., Specifically our Child ID Program. The Grand Lodge of Florida, has commissioned Cufflinks and Button Covers bearing the Seal of The Grand Lodge of Florida, F&AM. For your tax deductible donation of \$50.00 or more you will receive a set of Cufflinks. For your tax deductible donation of \$100.00 or more you will receive both the Cufflinks and Button Covers in a carrying box.



*The Masonic Charities, Inc., is a 501(c)3 corporation and your donation is Tax Deductible.*

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# Welcome To The Grand Lodge Of Florida



## Letter To Grand Secretary

Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire North and East Ridings  
PO Box 269, Pocklington, York, YO42 2YG  
Phone: 01904 898644 E-mail: office@pgl-york.org.uk  
James E. T. Massey, PAGDC Provincial Grand Secretary  
19th August 2015

M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Grand Secretary,  
Grand Lodge of Florida, 220 North Ocean Street, Jacksonville, 32202 USA

*Dear Grand Secretary,*

I write on behalf of the Provincial Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Jeffrey Gillyon, who has instructed me to express his sincere thanks and that of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Yorkshire North and East Ridings to The Grand Master, Most Worshipful Stephen P. Boring, and his Brethren for the kindness and compassion extended to our Brother Roy Aldrich and his family following a very serious road traffic collision in Davenport on April 2nd 2015, which resulted in Bro Aldrich sustaining serious injuries and his wife Susan dying at the scene.

Following our Provincial Grand Almoner's request for assistance to staff in your office, Bro Aldrich was given considerable support which was crucial in seeing him and his family through the immediate aftermath of the accident.

Whilst you will have been made aware of the incident I am sure that your staff and senior members will not have provided you with you with full details of the considerable support they offered. In particular, the Provincial Grand Master asks that you pass our thanks to Maegan Dover, who acted as the first point of contact in alerting your Deputy Grand Master Joseph Gonzalez to the situation and who in turn mobilized local support. The Worshipful Master of Haines Lodge, Brynn Summerlinn, was very active in offering support, whilst your District Deputy Grand Master, Fred Gerdorn, not only collected family members from Sandford Airport and then provided transport to and from the hospital but continued to work closely with the family. His involvement culminated with his attending a memorial service for Susan together with his wife. His compassion and ongoing support was exceptional.

The support provided to Bro Roy and his family was exemplary and reinforces the bond which we all feel as members of our Fraternity and I would ask that you pass on our thanks and good wishes to all those who made the family's grief more bearable by their efforts and friendship.

*Yours Sincerely and Fraternally,*

Jim Massey, PAGDC, Provincial Grand Secretary.  
CC Grand Chancellor United Grand Lodge of England



**"Remembering The Past - Embracing The Future"**