

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

TRESTLE BOARD

DECEMBER A.L. 2011

MASONIC SPOTLIGHT: W.: TERRY MCLAUGHLIN

Worshipful Terry McLaughlin was initiated into Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 on May 4, 1971 and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on November 2, 1971. At that time he was in the Navy, stationed in Tampa. Three months later he started his first class which included a skinny kid by the name of Donald Prosser. Although Terry had been transferred to Jacksonville to attend junior college, he returned to Tampa each Friday to teach his catechism class. After completing college, he was transferred again and did not return to Tampa until he retired in June, 1985. Three weeks later Terry had his new silver card in hand and started teaching again. With the exception of the three years he served as an elected officer, Terry has always taught a class.

While traveling with the Navy, Terry was selected as a Warrant Officer, but he did not take his oath of office until he could return to Hillsborough Lodge and have it administered by Past Master Jerome Beckett. One year later, when he was selected to become a Commissioned Warrant Officer, Terry again waited until he could return to the Lodge to have Jerry Beckett administer the oath.

Brother Terry was elector Master of Hillsborough Lodge in 1990 during the Lodge's 140th year of service to the community. The Lodge was featured on television, and for the first time the media

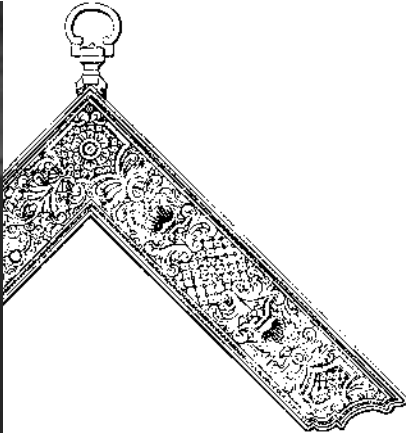
Continued on page 6



Brother Terry McLaughlin, pictured here with his 40-Year Certificate, has contributed greatly over the years to the success of Hillsborough Lodge. Most recently, he has been the volunteer administrative assistant for the past four years, and Terry says he "appreciates the opportunity to get dressed and get out of the house."

Degrees on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays
Stated Communications on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
Masonic Instruction every Thursday
Eastern Star meets on 1st and 3rd Saturdays
DeMolay meets every Monday

FROM THE EAST



My Brethren,

As I sail into the sunset to the station from whose bourne our Past Masters occupy in the Lodge, I look back with a happy reflection on the successes of this past year. Thanks to the best Senior and Junior Warden's a Master could hope for and the zeal for our Fraternity exhibited by our Brothers, all of the goals I set for this year as Worshipful Master, have been accomplished. I especially want to thank our Senior Warden, Joseph Gonzalez for an outstanding job on the Building and Finance Committees and our Junior Ward, Steve Silvers for providing refreshment among his other duties this year. I gratefully appreciate all the Brothers who attended Lodge and made unselfish contributions to the Lodge this year. I hope that we will be remembered for the intangible contributions as much as the tangible improvements this year and that our ancient Brothers will smile down upon us with favor for leaving this year better than we entered into it. For the Brothers who did not attend Lodge but were faithful to Free Masonry and the Lodge, I can assure that the Lodge, with our great base of leadership and young Masons, will continue to prosper, our historical landmarks will be preserved and our established customs will not deviated from. Time will be the judge of where this year ranks in the history of the Lodge.

I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

May God Bless all of my Masonic Brothers and Hillsborough Lodge No. 25.

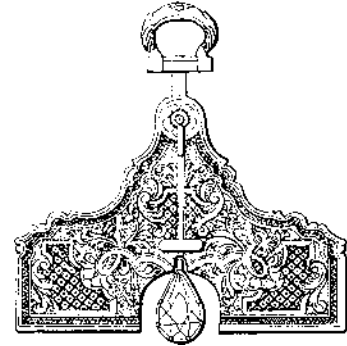
Thank you for giving me the privilege and honor of serving as your Worshipful Master this year.

With brotherly love and affection,

John D. Hooker

Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST



Brethren,

The holidays are a special time of year that inspire us all to reflect on our lives, families, friends, and the many blessings that have been bestowed on all of us. I find it fitting that our Masonic year ends during this very time. Therefore, thank you to all the Brothers who have shown their dedication and love for our Lodge. Your contributions to the Lodge, building, kitchen, and degrees are very much appreciated. A heartfelt thank you goes to every member of the Finance and Property Committees: you all have labored as true Masons, you have been incredibly supportive, and I know the Lodge will prosper on the back of your efforts.

As a matter of business, there will be one last Finance and Property meeting on Thursday, December 15th. It will be at 6 p.m. in the Past Masters room.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Lodge this year as the Senior Warden. I am especially proud to have represented our Lodge, and am very thankful for all the Brothers who have extended their friendship and fellowship.

I hope to see you all in Lodge soon.

Fraternally,

Joseph Gonzalez

Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers,

WOW! What a year. It seems just like yesterday that this year's officers were installed. This year has seen so many wonderful improvements to our Lodge, and I am proud to say that I am a Mason from Hillsborough Lodge No. 25. Our Lodge is a shining star for our fraternity. It's light benefits all of us through the values and principals we learn there.

Please remember that there are many people out there that need a helping hand during the holidays. As Masons we should always be as ready to give, as we are to receive. Remember our Brothers and Sisters in the Masonic Home. Have you seen how their faces light up when visitors are there? Take time this season to look around and see how we have benefited from Masonry and how we benefit others through the meaningful work we do.

I would like to thank each of you for the opportunity that you have given me to serve as your Junior Warden. I have tried to create a comfortable atmosphere during refreshment for all who wanted to share the company of Brothers and friends. It has not always been an easy assignment, but cooking for the Lodge, preparing for our family night's and managing the Table Lodge have broadened my abilities and taught me that I can do much more than I had originally thought I could. I hope that everyone has enjoyed our meals this year as much as I have enjoyed making them.

Election night is December the 13th. As is our tradition, we will once again have the Manhattan clam chowder which we have served every year during elections. Our Brother Kyle Ellis (Vernon Clark's son-in-law) with Mary's help, has agreed to cook for us using Vernon's family recipe. See you all there!

Happy Holidays Brothers,

Steven Silvers

Junior Warden

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brethren,

First of all, I want to thank all the brethren for the support you have given the secretary's office this past year. I especially want to thank W.: Terry McLaughlin who has been an invaluable part of this operation. We are processing petitions as soon as they are brought into the lodge, and without his assistance, things would not run as smooth as they do. While we are all volunteers in this great fraternity, Terry has the time to devote to being at the lodge during the day to get some of those things done that just take time. Meeting nights are hectic at best, because brothers come in and want to pay dues, ask questions, and just be that friendly brother that comes in to say hello which we always enjoy. While all the officers do work for the lodge away from the lodge, Terry is there to take care of many of the things, including the preparation of paperwork, that we need to do all the time, let those contractors in that are there to repair or check equipment, accept deliveries, and various other sundry things that just come up from time to time. When you come to lodge, take the time to go to Terry and thank him for all he does for this lodge.

We have lost another one of our Past Masters. Worshipful Hale Godwin Jr. Worshipful Master in 1962, was called to the Celestial Lodge Above on November 6, 2011. A memorial service was held on November 19th at Lake Carroll Baptist Church.

Brother Henry Pierce and his lady have made application to the Masonic Home, and their application was with the Board of Directors for acceptance at the November 20th meeting at the Masonic Home.

Petitions referred to the investigations committee: Matthew Patrick Belmonte, Charles Joseph Corces, and Travis Alan Van Buren for the three symbolic degrees.

DECEMBER

A.L. 6011

NOTICE OF SPECIAL DECEMBER MEETING

Please mark your calendars!

December 13th - Elections
Balloting for 2012 Officers.

DECEMBER 2011						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

"Leadership is an opportunity to serve. It is not a trumpet call to self-importance."

—J. Donald Walters

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				 1 Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	2 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION	 3 Chapter 11 1 p.m. FALL SHRINE INDUCTION
4 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 5 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 6 EA Jose Edgardo Coll, Aaron Patrick Criswell, Ronald Richard King Jr., James Francis Mongovan & Jamey Heed Neely Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	7 DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	 8 Masonic Education 6:30 p.m. MMRL CIGAR SMOKER C & G Cigars	9 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION	10 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION
MASONIC HOME BOARD MEETING 3201 1st Street NE St. Pete, FL 33704 (727) 822-3499	 12 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 13 2012 OFFICER ELECTIONS Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	14 DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	 15 Masonic Education 6:30 p.m. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING	16 MASTERS & WARDENS MEETING Fellowship Lodge No. 265 • 7 p.m. 306 N. Lincoln Ave. Tampa, FL	 17 Chapter 11 1 p.m.
18 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 19 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 20 EA Matthew Patrick Belmonte, Charles Joseph Corces, Andrew William Dempsey, Brian Eric Fulton & Travis Allen Van Buren Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	21 DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	 22 Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	23 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION	24 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION
25 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 26 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	 27 2012 OFFICER ELECTIONS Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Meeting 7:15 p.m.	28 DISTRICT SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	29 Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	30 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION	31 FALL SHRINE INDUCTION

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MASONIC EDUCATION

Seek, and Ye Shall Find


The making of a Freemason consists of a continuing course of education, of training, and of character forming. While it may be accepted that it is an innermost desire, followed by obligations that makes one a member of the Craft, yet in a truer form and better sense, a man is never a Freemason until he truthfully and loyally lives up to his obligations. And he cannot do that until he understands them, and eventually knows their scope and real meaning.

Freemasonry can very well be divided into many phases. Its landmarks, its customs, its constitution and its laws, just to mention a few, if studied and mastered, can provide a more interesting course for the Master Mason seeking Masonic knowledge. Its historical background can provide in interesting program of investigation to the Member attracted to a desire for research.

One peculiarity about Freemasonry is that it will withstand investigation. The deeper the research, the more extensive the knowledge of its hidden art and mysteries, the more highly it is appreciated. A member of the Craft who merely takes his degrees in a listless, careless sort of manner, and then remains as just a spectator at Lodge meetings, may hold to the opinion that Freemasonry differs little from other societies. The contrary, the Master Mason who delves deeply into Masonic literature takes a lively interest in every part of the Ritualistic and Lodge Work, and learns the origin, meaning and moral bearing of its symbols, cannot possibly fall into such an error. To him Freemasonry has a refining and elevating influence not to be found in the ordinary run of organizations.

The philosophies of Freemasonry, when discovered and then accepted and practiced, provide that simple but profound solution to the problems of human relationships. May it be accepted that Freemasonry is a way of living to the Master Mason who is interested enough to appraise and value the wealth that is his, and his alone, by virtue of his Masonic Membership.

The best informed Master Mason is the Master Mason who reads and studies. Consequently, if we want Freemasonry to be of practical usefulness and cultural attainment, we, as Freemasons, must not neglect our Masonic reading, our Masonic studying and our research for more Masonic Light.


As you pursue your Masonic Education, you must remember this VERY IMPORTANT POINT: No One Person Speaks for Freemasonry! Frankly, this single phrase cannot be emphasized enough. A Grand Master - by virtue of his office - can speak for Masonry but only for his jurisdiction and only during the term of his office! Any attempts to make this person or that a "spokesman" fail. Books and other writings about Freemasonry, while perhaps interesting, are simply one person's opinion. Some are researched far better than others and some are more accurate - but they are no more or no less "true" than the facts the author has provided. 

Selected Masonic Reading List:

- The Craft and its Symbols* by Allen E. Roberts
- The Builders* by Joseph Fort Newton
- A Pilgrim's Path* by John J. Robinson
- Morals and Dogma* by Albert Pike
- The Origins of Freemasonry* by David Stevenson
- The Pocket History of Freemasonry* by Fred L. Pick and G. Norman Knight
- Facts, Fables, and Fantasies of Freemasonry* by William A. Brown
- The Meaning of Masonry* by Walter Wilmshurst
- Revolutionary Brotherhood* by Steven C. Bullock
- House Undivided* by Allen E. Roberts
- Freemasonry and the Presidency* by Ray Vaughn Denslow
- These Were Brethren* by Carl H. Claudy
- Born in Blood* by John J. Robinson

Continued from page 1

took pictures of various areas in the building and interviewed Don Prosser about Masonry. Brother Terry started the tradition of introducing Past Masters at each meeting, and he is very proud that successive Masters have continued the practice. Terry has served as Treasurer six times and as Chairman of the Petitions Committee numerous times, but he truly enjoys teaching and interacting with each new batch of "his kids."

Terry McLaughlin is a Knight Commander, Court of Honor at Scottish Rite, and a Past Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star of Florida. He has been honored for his Masonic instruction by having his name put on a chair in Lodge Rooms at Charleston, SC, Newark, NJ, and at Neptune Lodge in Jacksonville, FL. 

ANNOUNCEMENTS



We have lost another one of our Past Masters. Worshipful Hale Godwin Jr. Worshipful Master in 1962, was called to the Celestial Lodge Above on November 6, 2011. A memorial service was held on November 19th at Lake Carroll Baptist Church.

Rest in Peace, our Brothers in the Celestial Lodge Above...

If you hear of a brother who has passed to that Celestial Lodge above, please inform the Lodge Secretary so he can send out the Widows' Certificate.



ORDER OF DEMOLAY

Paul Revere Chapter



Meets at Hillsborough Lodge every Monday at 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact:

Brother Bill Cobb
Personal Representative to
the Executive Office of DeMolay
813-835-1793

"Secretary's Desk" continued from page 3

Elected to receive the Three Symbolic Degrees: Messrs. Jesse James Knafla and James Heed Neely.

Hillsborough lodge is still the only lodge in the state that is supporting the Deputy Grand Masters request to honor the resident of the month at the Masonic Home, and Mrs. Virginia Berault, a member of Manatee #14 OES is the recipient for the month of November.

You need to mark your calendar for December 13, 2011. This is the annual election of officers night, and your presence will show the newly elected officers that you support them and the lodge.

I want to send each of you my personal regards for a wonderful holiday season. May good fortune and prosperity be with you in these trying times. Remember your Masonic Home, your brothers who may have fallen on bad times or are ill. Renew your obligations by attending Lodge when ever possible.

Fraternally,

Thomas C. Newton

Thomas C. Newton, PM, PDI

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



Meets at Hillsborough Lodge 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 1 p.m.

*God made loving people to show us day by day
How far the wonders of His love can go.
And all the good they do helps make a better world—
A little bit of heaven here below.*

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

It is the season of peace and love. Wouldn't it be a better world if it was that season all year long! Let us strive for that!

We are happy to announce that we have initiated three new members: Sue Rutledge, Cookie Upton, and Lisa Crespo, who we know will be assets to our Chapter and Order.

Our own Official Inspection by our Associate Grand Matron, Sister Harriette Peebles, is on Saturday, December 3 at 1 p.m. Our Christmas Party and Card Exchange is on December 17 at 1 p.m. Both functions should be fun and get you in the holiday mood. Please plan to attend these two events. If you need transportation, please call the Worthy Matron.

Advance Notice: We will honor our own Past Grand Patron, Brother Terry McLaughlin, on Saturday, January 7 at 1 p.m. Come for the SNOW without the cold weather.

Remember to Trust and Obey God and Love One Another.

Claudine Rogers, P.M., Worthy Matron • 813-393-7490
Terry McLaughlin, P.G.P., Worthy Patron • 727-412-4053



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Address Service Requested



2011 OFFICERS

- W.: John D. Hooker Worshipful Master
- Joseph Gonzalez Senior Warden
- Steven Silvers Junior Warden
- R.:W.: Stephen Jacobson Treasurer
- R.:H.: Tom Newton Secretary
- David Liniger Senior Deacon
- Clifford Allen Junior Deacon
- Damien Rodriguez Senior Steward
- Daniel Blair Junior Steward
- Joshua Sussman Chaplain
- Kermit Hines Tyler
- R.:W.: C. Don Prosser Historian
- W.: William Powell Organist Emeritus
- Len Whalen Chaplain Emeritus
- W.: Thomas Johnson Treasurer Emeritus
- Jerry Olbrys Associate Tyler



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Joseph M. Wilkinson
President

FULL LINES OF PROPERTY & CASUALTY

Lodge Toy Drive for the Holidays



We are now collecting holiday gifts for our annual Toys for Tots donation. Please bring new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls to the Lodge by Thursday, December 15th.