

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

TRESTLE BOARD

AUGUST A.L. 2012

MASONIC SPOTLIGHT: BRO. GERALD R. FORD, JR.

Brother Gerald Rudolph Ford, Jr., was the 38th President of these United States, and the last president to have had a Masonic background. He was born on July 14, 1913, in Omaha, Nebraska. His birth name was Leslie Lynch King, Jr., but was renamed by his stepfather in 1917.

He attended the University of Michigan where he excelled in football, and was offered NFL contracts from the Green Bay Packers and Detroit Lions. Declining both offers, he was later accepted to Yale University Law School. Brother Ford served our country in the United States Navy, fought in World War II and was honorably discharged from the Navy as a Lieutenant Commander.

Gerald returned to Michigan and practiced law as his primary occupation. Continuing his pursuit of public office, he was the US Representative from Michigan for twenty-five years. By virtue of the 25th Amendment, Brother Ford was nominated to be Vice-President by President Nixon and assumed the presidency of the United States upon Nixon's resignation.

Continued on page 7



Brother Gerald R. Ford is one of nine U.S. Vice Presidents to become President as a result of the sitting President's departure and the only one due to resignation.

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



Brethren,

As the Lodge will be dark during the month of August, I encourage you to spend valuable time with your family and friends. The Lodge will be very busy for the rest of the year:

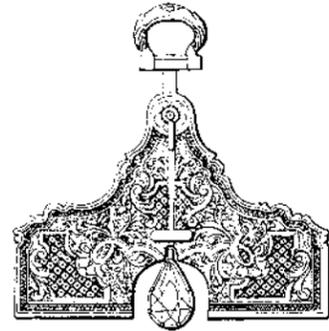
- Tuesday, September 4th, 6:30pm, our Lodge will host the 12th Annual Table Lodge. This event is opened to all Masons, whether EA or Masters, and is a great time to meet new Brothers and get re-acquainted with old friends. Tickets are available by contacting any officer of the Lodge or the Secretary's office. Reservations are limited, so get your ticket soon.
- Tuesday, September 11th, 7:15pm, will be R.:W.: John D. Hooker's official visit to our Lodge as the District Deputy Grand Master of the 22nd Masonic District. Dinner will begin at 6:30pm; please make every effort to attend this meeting and show your support for our Grand Lodge officers and the Committeemen.
- Tuesday, September 25th, 7:15pm, we will be honoring Brothers of our Lodge who were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in the months of August and September. This program has been a huge success and is a great opportunity to welcome back Brothers of our Lodge.
- Saturday, September 29th, M.:W.: Jorge Aladro will make his official visit to Districts 22 and 23. Dinner and Lodge meeting will be at the Stu Lang activities center, Egypt Temple, beginning at 5pm.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers your Brothers and their families who may be going through difficult times, health challenges or financial hardships. As part of our obligation, we are to support and extend a helping hand and comforting words to Brothers who need such relief. A phone call, letter, hand shake, visit and a listening ear are types of relief that each of us can provide. See you all in Lodge soon!

Fraternally,

Joseph Gonzalez
Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST



My Brothers,

We have a busy few months ahead as we approach the end of the Masonic year Brothers. There are two family nights, one in July and one in October, as well as our annual Table Lodge in September. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased from any officer. We expect to sell out, so make sure you get your ticket soon.

As we move into August, the Lodge will be dark for the month as is our custom. Catechism classes and degree practice will continue as usual. I would like to encourage all Brothers who may be interested in being active in degree work to come to our practices. They are a great opportunity to learn the work, which will qualify you to take part in our degrees.

Remember Brothers that the Republican National Convention will be taking place during the last two weeks of August. Our schedule is subject to change based on the ability to access the Lodge during this time. Please contact one of your officers to find out if any changes occur.

Good health and happiness to all. I hope to see you all soon at one of our stated communications in the near future.

Fraternally,

Steven Silvers

Senior Warden

FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings, Brothers,

We are more than half way done with the year, which means I'm on the home stretch providing refreshment for the craft. We have three key dates after we come back from being dark in August. September 4th is Table Lodge, an event all the Brothers of Hillsborough 25 should attend, and it is certain to be awesome. (All officers have tickets available for purchase) September 11th is the official visit of R.:W.: DDGM John D. Hooker. Please come to show Hillsborough 25's support. October 30th will be first responder's night and will have some very inspirational speakers, please make every effort to attend these 3 events. Any Brother who has a dinner request or would like to prepare a meal, e-mail me at: davidliniger@gmail.com.

"The eyes of the cheerful and of the melancholy man are fixed upon the same creation; but very different are the aspects which it bears to them."

— Albert Pike

Peace, Brothers,

Dave Liniger

Junior Warden

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



Brothers,

Do you have a Perpetual Membership? If you do have one, great. If you don't, consider getting one now. The cost of a perpetual membership will increase next year in 2013. Applications for perpetual membership are available in the secretary's office. You don't have to pay it all at once, there is a payment plan and we have the forms for that as well.

If you hear that any of our Brothers who have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above, please inform the Secretary's Office right away so that we can make Masonic Funeral arrangements, if desired by the family, and send out the Widow's Kit. And as always, please remember your Masonic Home in your wills and gifts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas C. Newton

Thomas C. Newton, PM, PDI

Pay Your
2012 Dues
Online...



AUGUST

A.L. 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 DISTRICT 22 SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION John Darling Lodge No. 154 • 7 p.m. 4601 N. Habana Ave. Tampa, FL	2  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	3	4
5	6  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	7 DARK	8	9  Masonic Education Ritual Practice 6:30 p.m.	10	11
12	13  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	14 DARK	15	16  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	17	18
19 MASONIC HOME BOARD MEETING 11 a.m. 3201 1st Street NE St. Pete, FL	20  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	21 DARK	22	23  Masonic Education 6:30 p.m.	24 MASTERS & WARDENS MEETING Fellowship Lodge No. 265 • 7 p.m. 306 N. Lincoln Ave. Tampa, FL	25
26	27  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.	28 DARK	29	30	31	

NOTICE OF SPECIAL SEPTEMBER MEETING

Please mark your calendars!

September 4th - Table Lodge
Brotherhood & Fun for All

SEPTEMBER 2012						
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						

*"Great perils have this beauty, that they
bring to light the fraternity of strangers."*

—Victor Hugo

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 12th Annual

TABLE LODGE

September 4, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Join Us for an Evening of Fun, Brotherhood & Delicious Food!

Tickets \$35

Terry McLaughlin (Tues & Thurs) • 813-229-2305 • hills25@verizon.net

Joe Gonzalez • 813-433-8277 • joe@gword.net

Steve Silvers • 813-368-3878 • mrsteve1@verizon.net

David Liniger • 813-368-0766 • davidliniger@gmail.com

MASONIC EDUCATION

A Brief History of Table Lodge

From time immemorial, Freemasons have enjoyed meeting about a "Festive Board" loaded with the fruits of their labor. Special emphasis was placed on the Summer and Winter Solstice, late in June and December, which were, and are, St. John the Baptist (June 24th) and St. John the Evangelist (December 27th).

Man has been continually seeking some noble purpose to pursue even centuries ago, when life was perhaps more perilous and severe, feasting became a major diversion, as much for social desires as to satisfy the needs of the inner-man.

The feasts which are probably the oldest of all Fraternal repasts were those of the "Mysteries" of ancient Egypt, the so-called "Sons of Light." The oldest of Masonic origin, of which we have any reliable record, were the feasts upon being "Entered" and "Passed" to a Fellow of the Craft. These go back far beyond the records of organized Masonry.

The Masonic desirability of a social dinner is as old as the Freemasonry we know. In 1717, when the mother Grand Lodge was formed to revitalize the Lodges in and around London, one of the reasons given was to revive the Quarterly Communication and to hold the Annual Feast. Many historians claim this annual banquet was the most important move made by the new body. A short time later, the Grand Master directed there be installed the old, regular and peculiar toasts and health's of Freemasons.

From the idea of the feast, and the desire to promote a greater

◀

degree of fellowship and kinship in Masonry, was born the Table Lodge. Both the affection of friends and the love for the Fraternity flourished within its walls. Its Communications were more like a reunion than a Regular Lodge meeting, and it became a center of relaxation, celebration and inspiration of Freemasonry.

The Table Lodge had a most unusual pattern. Its meeting was conducted around the table, and the helpings of food and beverage were served in such a way they did not interfere with the other concerns of the Lodge. There were many toasts and the lusty voices of the Masons rang out with Masonic songs. The Table Lodge was traditionally a tiled Entered Apprentice Lodge, followed by the peculiar ritual used only in a Table Lodge, so all Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts could participate in the fellowship of the Lodge. As all business is usually conducted in the Master Mason Degree, then called to refreshment, at which time all Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts could be admitted and the Table Lodge opened, using the suggested ceremony provided by the Committee on Work.

In our colonial days, the Table Lodge was Freemasonry's greatest asset. It buoyed up the spirit of the colonists who were members of the Craft when they were at their lowest ebb. While the repast was undoubtedly limited and meager, the fervor and zeal were there. The Table Lodge is a heritage of our past, which deserves consideration of revival. It has been stated that "The Table Lodge is the summary of Masonic Doctrine." It prescribed reverence for Divinity and the Moral Law. It strengthened the devotion that Masons held for the Lodge and Country. It increased the unity and fellowship of the Craft. ☞

http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/table_lodge_history_ritual.htm

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

ORDER OF DEMOLAY

Paul Revere Chapter



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

A Message from John Hillyer...

I have to get something off my chest. I have been thinking about this for quite a while and have not addressed it yet so here it goes... I am truly proud to be a DeMolay Advisor. It is not because of the same old worn out blah blah niceties that you would normally hear about DeMolay. It has nothing to do with the fact that I am a senior DeMolay, or that DeMolay is such a great organization for young men. That has all been said time and time again and it is true, but there is something that is almost always left out of the equation.

As the Dean of JBU, I have thrown some rather complex information, ideas, and strategies at them. At times I thought I may have gone overboard, and been too difficult. However, every time I think that, I see them rise to or exceed the level of my expectations of them. I have learned not to underestimate the abilities of these young men. I have seen firsthand the level of dedication and pride my DeMolay JBU instructors have put into their classes. I have heard the ideas that come from the DeMolays who attend the classes. Every time the bar has been set they have found new ways of raising it.

Through this I have come to realize that we have a level of quality not seen in many other youth groups, especially not in the scale that we have in Florida. If you read the news it is easy to want to give up on the youth of today. There is so much teen on teen crime, and the youth of today are doing things that absolutely terrify me. That is what makes the DeMolay of today such a success story, because they have to deal with so much more than I did when I was active. Recently I read a speech that was given by one of the new Master Councilors at his installation. It served to solidify my thinking that there are leaders among the youth of today. So yes, I am proud to be a DeMolay advisor because the members of the organization are what make it great. They make me want to be a better advisor for them and I am lucky to be a part of such an outstanding organization.

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR



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

For more information about Tampa Chapter No. 11 or the Order of the Eastern Star, please contact: Sandra Johnson, PM, Secretary • P.O. Box 9046 • Tampa, FL 33674-9046 • (813) 500-3460

"Masonic Spotlight" continued from page 1

He is the only US President to have never been elected president or vice-president. Brother Ford is credited with signing the Federal Election Campaign Act and the Privacy Act of 1974, and was the first president to visit Japan. Brother Ford served terms in office from 1974 to 1977 with his Vice-President Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Brother Ford was initiated a Mason in Malta Lodge No.465, Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 30, 1949. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 18, 1951, at Columbia Lodge No.3 of the District of Columbia, who conferred the Master Mason degree as a courtesy to Malta Lodge. Furthering his light in Masonry, he was initiated a member of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Grand Rapids, A.A.S.R. in 1957, and was coroneted an Honorary 33 S.G.I.G. in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on October 26, 1962. He was also a member of the Shriners of Saladin Temple, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and an Honorary Member of DeMolay Legion of Honor. Brother Truman passed to the celestial Lodge above on December 26, 2006, in Rancho Mirage, California. ☞

Remember Your Masonic Charities Throughout The Year...



**The Good Work Never Stops,
So Please Give Generously!**



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2012 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Joseph GonzalezWorshipful Master
 Steven SilversSenior Warden
 David LinigerJunior Warden
 R.:W.: Stephen Jacobson. Treasurer
 R.:H.: Tom Newton Secretary
 Joshua SussmanSenior Deacon
 Cliff AllenJunior Deacon
 Ken SkillmanSenior Steward
 Billy SchmidtJunior Steward
 Michael St. James.Marshall
 Kermit HinesChaplain
 Drew Baldwin.Tyler
 R.:W.: C. Don Prosser Historian
 W.: William Powell Organist Emeritus
 Len WhalenChaplain Emeritus
 W.: Thomas JohnsonTreasurer Emeritus



Table Lodge



**Is Coming!
 Sept. 4th**

**Don't miss
 this
 fun event!**

Tickets \$35.00 • Ask a Lodge Officer or call (813) 229-2305 for details.

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