

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

TRESTLE BOARD

NOVEMBER A.L. 2015

MASONIC EDUCATION: THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION OF 1789

Since the settlement of the colonies, Americans have been setting aside days of thanksgiving, prayer, and fasting in response to significant events. In 1789, President George Washington issued a proclamation designating November 26 of that year as a national day of thanksgiving to recognize the role of providence in creating the new United States and the federal Constitution. Later, President Abraham Lincoln took steps towards designating it a permanent federal holiday.

Americans recognize the first Thanksgiving as having traditionally taken place at Plymouth colony in the autumn of 1621. Separatist Puritan settlers of Plymouth, known as Pilgrims, held a feast after their first harvest as a way of thanking God for their blessings. Invited to their observance were many members of the neighboring Wampanoag tribe, among whom such a harvest celebration was also neither unfamiliar nor uncommon. The 1621 Thanksgiving celebration, however, did not become an annual event; rather, residents of Plymouth and the other colonies held days of thanksgiving and/or fasting over the years, at different times of year for a variety of reasons.



National Monument to the Forefathers is located in Plymouth. The cornerstone was laid August 2, 1859, by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, under the direction of M·W· John T. Heard, PGM.

Continued on page 6

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,

I would like thank everyone, for all your support and hard work this year. I am extremely thankful to be surrounded with such great men and Brothers. Thanksgiving is a time to recognize how great our lives are, because of the affection and support of the craft, and that we are truly blessed. To make good men better is truly a Thanksgiving in my life. It was a surreal privilege to have been accepted into this Lodge, and work my way through the line and be elected into the East by my Brethren. This has been a great learning experience and will leave a lasting mark on my life. It often makes me reflect on my Grand Fathers career, as he was the Master of Inverness Lodge No. 118 in 1954, and how his life as a Mason played an important roll in my life. I am truly thankful for this experience.

I look forward to watching the line continue to blossom at Hillsborough and to see the development of others going through the line. I wish them well and will be glad to support anyway possible. With the influx of new properties in downtown Tampa, and many new residence coming to our area, we have what many good men seek and we should experience continued growth. We have been very busy and have had many quality men come into our Lodge. I am very thankful for this.

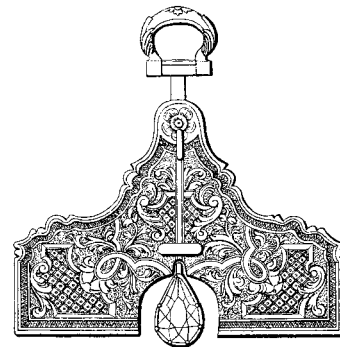
We will be hosting our annual Toys for Tots event so please bring in your toys so those who are less fortunate will have a better Christmas. I would like to have all the toys available for the Marines to pick up at our Stated Meeting, Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

Fraternally,

Clifford M. Allen

Worshipful Master

FROM THE WEST



Greetings, My Brothers!

We are now one month away from our annual elections, and this year Grand Lodge legislation and a ruling from from the Grand Master have created significant changes to the process. Here are a few things you should know about, as I understand them . . . Only those Brothers who have been nominated (using a form available in the Lodge Secretary's office), and have accepted that nomination, will be eligible to be balloted upon. This will allow limited discussion of the nominees in private, but not in open Lodge, without such conversations deemed electioneering. Nominations must be submitted to the Secretary prior to the opening of the Stated Communication in which the elections are to take place. No nominations will be accepted from the floor, or after Lodge is opened. In the event that there is only one nominee, a motion may be duly made, seconded and approved to ballot by a show of hands, rather than the usual paper ballot. If there are no nominees for an elected office, then a Brother will be assigned the office on a pro tem basis, and a dispensation must be granted by the Grand Master to hold a special election to fill the office. If you have any questions about any of this, please contact the Lodge Secretary.

NOTICE: If you have interest in being a part of the 2016 Officers Line, there will be an informational meeting on Thursday, November 12, 6:30 p.m., in the Past Masters Room. If you cannot attend, but still have a desire to serve, please contact me at kenneth.r.skillman@gmail.com or (813) 545-2446.

I wish you and your families a very warm and heartfelt Happy Thanksgiving! May the many blessings of life in these great United States of America continue to shower you and your loved ones throughout the coming year!

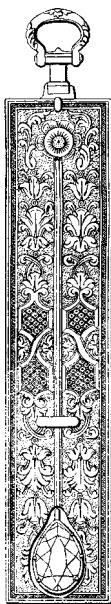
Sincerely & Fraternaly

Kenneth R. Skillman

Senior Warden

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

FROM THE SOUTH



Greetings Brothers,

As we approach the end of the year, we will be totaling up the Masonic Education points for our Lodge. It's crucial that we obtain all of the points for our Masonic activities. Please confirm your participation and attendance by going to our Lodge website, www.hillsborough25.org, find 'Brothers' in the navigation bar and click the "My Masonic Attendance" link. On the Attendance Page, enter the events that you've attended and submit it. The data from your entries will be used in our final tabulations.

We can always use more catechism instructors. Catechism instruction and education is a vital building block to the Masonic development of our Brothers. Support your Lodge Brothers' Masonic journey by volunteering to take a class.

Our final Family Night of the year was another tremendous success. What a great crowd! Congratulations to all of our new Master Masons who received their aprons, and to all the Brothers who received special recognition that night.

I wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. Take a moment to remember all of the many things that we should be thankful for in our country and Freemasonry. We are members of the greatest Fraternity in the world. Never take this for granted, be thankful for this important privilege, and remember why you became a Mason.

"Masonic labor is purely a labor of love. He who seeks to draw Masonic wages in gold and silver will be disappointed. The wages of a Mason are in the dealings with one another; sympathy begets sympathy; kindness begets kindness; helpfulness begets helpfulness, and these are the wages of a Mason."

— Bro. Benjamin Franklin

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Drew Baldwin

Junior Warden

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TRESTLE BOARD

SECRETARY'S DESK



My Brothers,

It's hard to believe that this year is almost over. I hope you will join us on November 3rd for Past Masters Night, when we will initiate the next class into the Fraternity. It's also a fun night to watch as your Past Masters put on a degree. This is an opportunity that Past Masters look forward to, as we do not often have the opportunity to put on a degree or occupy an officers chair.

In about a month, it will once again be time to elect new officers to carry on the traditions of Hillsborough Lodge. Elections will be held on December 8th at our first stated communication in December. Remember, no member can be elected to office, who has not been nominated for that particular office, and agreed in advance that if elected, he will accept the position. Election of officers is an important function and responsibility of the members of this Lodge. I hope to see as many Brothers as are able to attend on election Night.

Within the next two weeks, you should be receiving your dues notices. Please be prompt in paying your dues, as the Lodge depends on these funds to operate. If you are an emeritus, perpetual, life or dues exempt member, your dues card will be mailed when they are received by the Lodge. Please remember your Masonic Home and send in your voluntary donation for the Let Your Pennies Make Good Sense program. If you've had a change in address and have not notified the Lodge, please let me know before cards are mailed. I want to be sure that your mail makes it to your residence.








I hope everyone has a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Fraternally,

Steven J. Silvers

Secretary

District Instructor

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1 | 2 |  EA Degree Past Masters Night Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m. | District School of Instruction John Darling Lodge • 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | 4 |  Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m. |
| 8 |  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  Stated Communication Toys for Tots Presentation Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m. | 11 |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | 13 | HIGH TWELVE LODGE Meeting at Noon |
| MASONIC HOME BOARD MEETING 11 a.m. 3201 1st St. NE St. Pete, FL |  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. |  FC Degree Night For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m. | 18 |  Masonic Education & Catechism 6:30 p.m. | Masters & Wardens Meeting John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL. | Outdoor Degree Masonic Park & Youth Camp 9:00am 18050 US 301 S Wimauma, FL 33598 |
| 22 |  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. | No Lodge Meeting | 25 |  Happy Thanksgiving! Lodge Closed | 27 | 28 |
| 29 |  Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m. | MORE MASONIC EVENTS View more Masonic events and updated information on the Lodge web site: www.hillsborough25.org , or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, links available on the web site.   | | | | |



Don't Forget to Bring
Toys to Lodge
for the Marines
to pick up on
November 10, 2015!

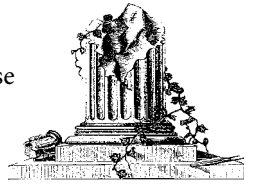
HAPPY BIRTHDAY BROTHERS!

Aaron H. Lewis
Anthony M. Noto
Brian L. Shrader
Bruce K. Bowers
Charles H. Trexler III
Cyril Silver
Dale L. Hatchell
Denny R. Young
Donald J. Hawald
Donald R. Valverde
Errol L. Duren
Everett I. Hodsdon
Fernando B. Muniz
Franklin R. Florence Sr
Hugh C. Sullivan Jr.
James G. Bennett
James G. Vanderloop
Jerry M. Handy
Jimmy C. Fischer
Jimmy C. Mills
Joel H. Baez
John D. Hooker
John H. Erb III

John J. Hillyer III
John S. Laing
John S. Zacheis
Joseph G. Wamsley
Karl Degiacomi
L. Robert Then
Lawrence T. Bryan
Lowell L. Logerwell
Matthew D. Feck
Matthew R. Setzer
Norman M. Rusch
Rafael L. Pizano
Richard W. Taylor
Robert E. Adams
Robert G. Harz
Robert Phillips
Ronald Spencer
Roy D. Hagan
Samuel R. Whitaker
Thomas W. Kaenrath
Weldon L. Weber Jr
William T. Staunko

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TREASURY BOARD

If you hear of a Brother who has
passed to that Celestial Lodge Above, please
inform the Lodge Secretary so
the Lodge can give proper condolence
and assistance to his Widow.



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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, Executive Office of DeMolay
813-835-1793

O.E.S. CHAPTER II



Tampa Chapter No. 11 wishes everyone a happy,
healthy and successful Fall Season!

All Meetings Begin at 1pm, 1st & 3rd Saturdays

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need a ride,
please call the Secretary – rides can be arranged.
And don't forget, we have a working elevator.

Sandra Johnson, PGC, Secretary

402 Sinclair Hills Road • Tampa, FL 33613
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"Masonic Education" continued from page 1...

During the American Revolution, the practice continued. Colonial legislatures set aside days of prayer to recognize military victories against the British army. After British Gen. John Burgoyne surrendered to the Americans at Saratoga, New York, in October 1777, the Continental Congress suggested that a national day be set aside to recognize the victory. Commander of the Continental Army, General George Washington agreed, proclaiming December 18, 1777 as the first national thanksgiving day. The Continental Congress supported similar thanksgiving proclamations through 1784.

On September 25, 1789, Brother Elias Boudinot, of Burlington, New Jersey, introduced in the United States House of Representatives a resolution, which read, "That a joint committee of both Houses be directed to wait upon the President of the United States, to request that he would recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging, with grateful hearts, the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a Constitution of government for their safety and happiness." The House was not unanimous in its determination to give thanks. Aedanus Burke of South Carolina objected that he "did not like this mimicking of European customs, where they made a mere mockery of thanksgivings." Thomas Tudor Tucker thought "the House had no business to interfere in a matter which did not concern them. Why should the

President direct the people to do what, perhaps, they have no mind to do? They may not be inclined to return thanks for a Constitution until they have experienced that it promotes their safety and happiness. We do not yet know but they may have reason to be dissatisfied with the effects it has already produced; but whether this be so or not, it is a business with which Congress have nothing to do; it is a religious matter, and, as such, is proscribed to us. If a day of thanksgiving must take place, let it be done by the authority of the several States."

Citing biblical precedents and resolutions of the Continental Congress, proponents of a Thanksgiving celebration prevailed, and the House appointed a committee, which consisted of Elias Boudinot, Roger Sherman, and Peter Silvester, to approach President Washington. The Senate agreed to the resolution on September 26, 1789, and appointed William Samuel Johnson and Ralph Izard to the joint committee. On September 28th of that same year, the Senate committee reported that they had laid the resolution before the president.

Brother Washington issued a proclamation designating Thursday, November 26th as a national day of thanks. In his proclamation, Brother Washington declared that the necessity for such a day sprung from the Almighty's care of Americans prior to the Revolution, assistance to them in achieving independence, and help in establishing the constitutional government.

Continued on page 7

LOW TWELVE CLUB

"Masonic Education" continued from page 6...

The following Proclamation was issued by Brother George Washington, President of the United States of America, on October 3, 1789:

Whereas, it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor-- and whereas, both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be-- That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks--for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation--for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war--for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed--for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted--for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions-- to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually--to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed--to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord--To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us--and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

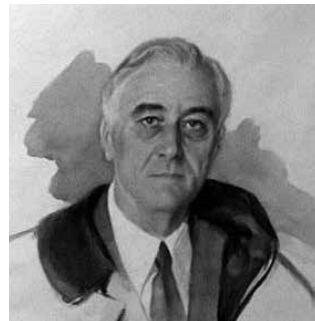
Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789. 1789

Source: www.mountvernon.org and www.gwpapers.virginia.edu

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 ■ TREASURY BOARD

My Brother, as you have been instructed, to relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent upon all men, but more particularly Masons. The Masonic Low Twelve Club of Tampa is a benefit fund organized for Master Masons, whose dual or current membership is in a Masonic Lodge within Hillsborough County, Florida. The purpose of the Low Twelve Club is to provide immediate monetary relief and benefit to the widow, or other beneficiary, of said Low Twelve Club member in good standing, upon his demise.

Only Master Masons which are in good standing within their respective Masonic Lodges, not over 65 years of age, and in good health are eligible to apply for membership. For more information, or to obtain an application, contact R. W. Houston D. White, PDDGM, at email address hwhite3@tampabay.rr.com or phone (813) 884-8529.



"Men are not prisoners of fate, but only prisoners of their own minds."

— Franklin D. Roosevelt
32nd President
& Freemason

LIGHT IN MASONRY

"pilaster" - pronounced puh • last • er: a rectangular column, especially projecting from a wall. Word Origins from late 16th century French pilastre and Latin pilastrum.

"orb" - pronounced /ôrb/ : a spherical body; a globe; to encircle or enclose. Word Origin from Latin orbis.

"fidelity" - pronounced fi • del • i • ty: faithfulness to a person, cause, or belief, demonstrated by continuing loyalty and support. Word Origin from Old French fidelite, or Latin fidelitas / fidelis.

"jewel" - pronounced jew • el: an ornament or piece of jewelry containing precious stone; a very pleasing or valued person or thing; a very fine example. Word Origins from Old French joel and Latin jocus.



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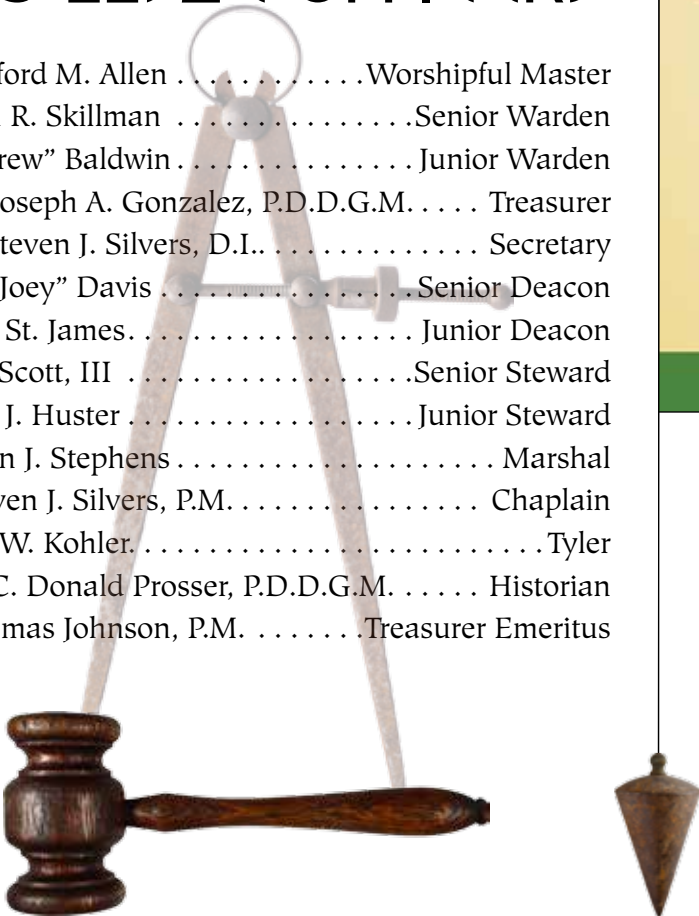
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508 EAST KENNEDY BOULEVARD
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602-4909

PHONE: (813) 229-2305
FAX: (813) 228-7623
E-MAIL: HILLS25@VERIZON.NET
WWW.HILLSBOROUGH25.ORG

Address Service Requested

2015 LODGE OFFICERS

W.: Clifford M. Allen Worshipful Master
Kenneth R. Skillman Senior Warden
John "Drew" Baldwin Junior Warden
R.:W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez, P.D.D.G.M. Treasurer
R.:H.: Steven J. Silvers, D.I. Secretary
Robert "Joey" Davis Senior Deacon
Michael St. James Junior Deacon
Billy D. Scott, III Senior Steward
Michael J. Huster Junior Steward
Benjamin J. Stephens Marshal
W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.M. Chaplain
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R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. Historian
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President

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