

HILLSBOROUGH LODGE NO. 25 F&AM

# TRESTLE BOARD

NOV : DEC A.L. 2018

## MASONIC EDUCATION: CHARITY & LOVE

As the 2018 approaches its end we are in the midst of religious celebrations. For brethren of the Jewish faith it is Chanukah. Scheduled on the lunar calendar, this year it is celebrated December 2nd through the 10th. The Hebrew word Chanukah means “dedication,” and the celebration is thus named because it commemorates the rededication of the Temple. Chanukah is an eight-day, winter-time “festival of lights,” celebrated with the nightly lighting of a menorah, with prayer and special foods. While this may not be very detailed explanation of Chanukah, the allegories of Freemasonry refer to both Temples, the celebration of Chanukah and the rededication of the Temple seems worthy of mention.

For Brethren of the Christian faith, we are in the season of Advent. In the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for baptism. Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for making the religious commitment. Originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to the preparation to celebrate the Nazarene’s birth. The season of Advent starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This year, it began on Sunday, December 2nd, the same day as Chanukah, and ends on Monday, December 24th.

These religious celebrations, whether Advent and Chanukah, may remind us of the importance of charity in our lives. In a religious sense, and certainly in a Masonic sense, charity is not about writing checks and giving to the poor, although those acts are important.

The word caritas appears in the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible in about 300 BCE. It was ultimately translated into English as charity. A better translation is probably “love”.

Our ancient Brethren seem to agree. We are instructed in the 18th degree, Knight of Rose Croix: “Charity has a greater meaning than that conveyed by that somewhat odious term, alms. Its principal

*Continued on page 7*

**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**

# PILLAR WISDOM



Greetings Brothers,

The year is about over, and this is my final Trestle Board article. I would like to sincerely thank the Brothers who placed their trust in me to be Worshipful Master of Hillsborough Lodge No. 25. It seems just like yesterday, when I was elected to the South. Wow! The time really does fly.

I would like to thank all of the Officers and Brothers who have taken the time to attend and support our Lodge during 2018. We have accomplished many of our projects this year. And, without my Officers and Committeemen, none of this would have been possible. I especially want to thank my Secretary W. Drew Baldwin for keeping the ship upright and always being there to help keep the business of the lodge running smoothly. I am forever grateful of your assistance this year.

I am blessed to have had so many dedicated Brothers that are coming up behind me in line, who have a true passion for this lodge and fraternity. Also, it was great to see many of our Brothers become members of the Valley of Scottish Rite and Egypt Temple Shrine.

It has been said to me that knowledge is the key to our continuous growth of our lodge and fraternity. I hope to see many Brothers continue their zeal for learning by earning their silver card, Master Mason I, II, III and LOTC. It will be rewarding for the Brother, but crucial for continued success.

In closing, I have been mentored by so many wonderful, charitable and virtuous men in this Fraternity whom I am honored to call my friends and Brothers, and it makes me extremely proud to be called a Mason.

And finally, to my wife Marcia. I am so grateful for your support, patience, and love as I have traveled on this journey. I love you and can't wait to spend more quality time as promised

I will never forget or take this opportunity for granted to serve Hillsborough Lodge No. 25.

A new chapter will begin, and I love you all, my Brothers.

Fraternally,

*Joe Davis*

Worshipful Master



# PILLAR STRENGTH



My Brothers,

As this will be the final Trestle Board article of the year I would like to say thank you to all the brothers who have made an effort to attend lodge this year. I understand with our ever hectic lives that becomes more and more difficult. I would ask that if you have been making regular attendance to continue, and if you haven't been able to join us for a called or stated communication that you do. Your attendance will be very welcome.

Coming up in November will be nomination for the 2019 officer line followed by the election of officers on December 11, 2018. This is a very important evening for the lodge as this is when we the Craft have a say in who our leadership for the ensuing year will be. Our tradition election meal will be prepared and a meaningful meeting to follow.

As we did last year, Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 will be

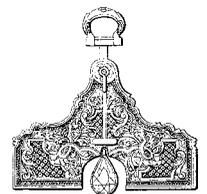
collecting and making a donation to Metropolitan Ministries for both the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons as well as our toy drive. Toys will be collected in the lodge until the end of November when we will deliver them to the local collection facility for later distribution to local area families and children in need. Toys will be staged in the lodge until then. Please bring an unwrapped gift (for boys or girls) and place it in the north east corner of the lodge room. If you have any questions feel free to contact me directly.

In closing, I would like to thank the brothers who have assisted in and around the lodge this year and I look forward to more exciting times ahead

Fraternally,

*Billy D. Scott, III*

Senior Warden



# PILLAR BEAUTY



My Brothers,

We have seen an impressive number of good men knock on our doors this year and take the time to get to know members before joining. We have seen fourteen Brothers Initiated thus far. One Brother came back to complete his Fellow Craft work. As of this writing, five have been Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. We are expected to see up to five more men be

Initiated on November 6th. Join us on a Tuesday evening for dinner and talk to these good men who are looking to petition!

The Lodge System of Masonic Education has been strong this year. Thank you again to R·W· Silvers, W· Liniger, Brother Ellis, and Brother Tennis for stepping up and instructing classes. We are glad to have R·W· Prosser back in Lodge, as well as giving post-lectures as the Lodge Mentor. A special thank you goes out to Brother Scott, who has filled in many critical roles this year in a pinch, including giving pre & post lectures while M·W· Prosser was out.

Are you interested in helping make your Lodge a better organization? We certainly are and we are looking for Brothers who would like to be involved in some manner. You don't have to be an officer of the Lodge or even attend Tuesday events to contribute to your Lodge. Many areas of education, instruction, ritual, fellowship, and community outreach need helping hands. I have been working on enhancing the Masonic Education pieces at business meetings and would love any assistance in that area that's possible.

We have had the opportunity to donate to the following organizations in September: The Paul Revere Chapter of the Order of DeMolay and the NC & SC Hurricane Relief through the Masonic Service Association. We were dark in August. Please donate personally to such organizations as you see fit. If you have a good organization that you feel would benefit from donations, please let me know.

As this is the final Trestle Board before elections and the end of this year, I'd like to thank all the active Brothers of this Lodge. A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of the Brothers who have assisted in the kitchen, preparing for dinner and meetings, and stepping up during projects. For those we haven't seen in a while, I sincerely hope we get to see you again soon.

*Continued on page 6*

# SECRETARY'S DESK



Greetings Brothers,

A Final Notice and Summons has been sent to every Brother who still has not paid his 2018 dues. If you have not paid your 2018 dues, please do so to avoid being suspended.

Just a reminder that on Tuesday, November 6th, Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 will have its annual Past Master's Degree. This year, it will be an Entered Apprentice Degree.

On Saturday, November 17th, the 19th and 20th Masonic Districts will host the annual Outdoor Master Mason Degree at the Masonic Park and Youth Camp in Wimauma. Breakfast will be at 8:00 a.m. and the degree will start at 9:00 a.m.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve as the Lodge Secretary this year. It has truly been an honor to serve the Craft this year and to work alongside so many great Brothers who have the best interests of our Lodge

and our Fraternity at heart.

Happy Holidays to you and your family.

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

*Drew Baldwin*  
Secretary, PM



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	 <p>3 Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</p>
4	 <p>5 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>6 <b>EA Degree Night</b>  Dinner 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>7 <b>District School of Instruction</b>  John Darling Lodge • 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL</p>	 <p>8 Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</p>	9	10
11	 <p>12 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>13 <b>Stated Communication</b>  Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	14	 <p>15 Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</p>	16	<p>17 <b>MASONIC HOME BOARD</b>  <b>MTG</b> Masonic Home of Florida St. Petersburg 11a.m.</p>
18	 <p>19 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>20 <b>No Lodge Meeting</b></p>	21	 <p>22 Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</p>	23	24
25	 <p>26 Paul Revere Chapter 7 p.m.</p>	 <p>27 <b>Stated Communication</b>  Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	28	29	<p>30 <b>Masters &amp; Wardens Meeting</b>  John Darling Lodge • 6:30 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL</p>	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h2>MORE MASONIC EVENTS</h2> <p>View more Masonic events and updated information on the Lodge web site: <a href="http://www.hillsborough25.org">www.hillsborough25.org</a>, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, links available on the web site.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; gap: 20px;">   </div>						 <b>Chapter 11 Meeting 1 p.m.</b>
2	3  <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	4  <b>EA Degree Night</b> For Candidates & Brothers prepared. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Degree 7:15 p.m.	5 <b>District School of Instruction</b> John Darling Lodge • 7 p.m. 4601 Habana Tampa, FL	6  <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	7	8
9	10  <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	11  <b>Stated Communication Election Night</b> Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:15 p.m.	12	13  <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b>  <b>Officers Meeting</b> PM Room 6:30pm	14 <b>MASONIC PARK BOARD</b> <b>MTG</b> Tampa Lodge No. 240 Tampa, FL 7 p.m.	15 <b>MASONIC HOME BOARD</b> <b>MTG</b> Masonic Home of Florida St. Petersburg 11a.m.
16	17  <b>Paul Revere Chapter</b> 7 p.m.	18  <b>No Lodge Meeting</b>	19	20  <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b>  <b>Finance / Prop. Meeting</b> PM Room 6:30pm	21	22 <b>Zone 4 School Instruction</b> Scottish Rite Masonic Center Tampa, FL 8:30 a.m.
23	24	25  <b>Merry Christmas!</b>	26	27  <b>Masonic Education &amp; Catechism</b> 6:30 p.m.	28 <b>Masters &amp; Wardens Meeting</b> John Darling Lodge No. 154 6:30 p.m. Tampa, FL.	29
30	31					

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## November 2018

## December 2018

Joel H Baez  
James G Bennett Jr  
Marquise F Blair  
Bruce K Bowers  
Lawrence T Bryan  
Karl Degiacomi  
Jimmy C Fischer  
Jerry M Handy  
Robert G Harz  
Dale L Hatchell  
Donald J Hawald  
Thomas J. Hebert  
John J Hillyer III  
Everett I Hodsdon  
John D Hooker  
John S Laing  
Aaron H Lewis  
Jimmy C Mills  
Fernando B Muniz  
Anthony M Noto  
Rafael L Pizano

Michael J Rogers  
Norman M Rusch  
Ernest O Seal Jr  
Matthew R Setzer  
Brian L Shrader  
Cyril Silver  
Ronald Spencer  
William T Staunko  
Malden D Stout III  
Hugh C Sullivan Jr  
Richard W Taylor  
Luis R Then  
Charles H Trexler III  
Donald R Valverde  
James G Vanderloop  
Joseph G Wamsley  
Weldon L Weber Jr  
Samuel R Whitaker  
Dennis R Young  
John S Zacheis

Donald G Anderson  
Nicolas T Awad  
Ryan W Bastek  
Miles B Beamguard  
Eli R Bobo  
James T Butler  
Johnny C Butler Jr  
Oliver T Davis III  
Richard L Davis  
James E Doling  
George R Edenfield  
Gary L Graham  
Jeremy R Hall  
Dwight K Hamborsky Jr  
Walter R Ireland  
Richard A Kammeier  
Charles L Kane  
Jerry M King Jr  
Joseph Lange  
David S Liniger  
Ronald S Lucas

Donald R Marsee  
Kevin M McLaughlin  
David E Montgomery  
Robert A Provencher  
Steven E Rhodes  
Benjamin B Risinger Jr  
Christopher J Roberts  
Frank L Rosenblatt  
Scott M Sandoval  
Samuel T Schiavone  
Noah W Schmiedecke  
Bryan M Seland  
Rufus M Smith  
Marwam Taouil  
William A Taylor  
Harold M Wagoner  
Robert C Weaver  
Julian Weber  
William R Williams III  
Jay R Wolfington

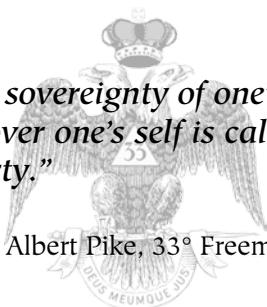
## Scottish Rite of Freemasonry Valley of Tampa

Spring Initiation May 18th and 19th, 2019  
[www.tampascottishrite.org](http://www.tampascottishrite.org)



*"The sovereignty of one's  
self over one's self is called  
Liberty."*

— Albert Pike, 33° Freemason



*"Pillar Beauty" continued from page 3...*

If you have any questions or want to get involved, please come talk to me anytime or email me at [billyschmidtH25@gmail.com](mailto:billyschmidtH25@gmail.com).

ANCORA IMPARO.

Fraternally,

*Billy D. Schmidt*

Junior Warden



*“Masonic Education” continued from page 1...*

meanings are affection, kindness and love. It leads us to love men of whatever faith and to be useful, kind and indulgent with that active, genial and efficient love, that is to the moral world what sunshine is to the material world.”

Love, in some fashion, is addressed frequently in our degrees. Brotherly Love is among the three tenets introduced in the Entered Apprentice degree and reinforced in the Master Mason degree. A new Law of Love is a major theme of the 18th degree.

Love. The Greeks had multiple words for it. Let’s explore them; we may find several embedded in Masonic ritual and philosophy. The Greek words are: philautia, ludus, eros, pragma, philia, and agape.

Philautia refers to self-love. It is a mature, healthy self-esteem and personal awareness that enables us to experience the other five kinds of love. It reminds us of a law found in the VSL: we are to “love our neighbors as ourselves.” Implicit in that statement is the idea “if we cannot love ourselves, how could we love each other?”

Aristotle asserted that all friendly feelings for others are but an extension of a man’s feeling for himself. The Greeks remind us, however, that an unhealthy variety of philautia is narcissism. We need only to remind ourselves of the narcissism of the three ruffians.

Next, we have ludus. Some scholars suggest the word is of Latin origin, not Greek. We’ll let others debate that. Ludus refers to playful love. We see it in the affection between young children or complete strangers getting to know each other. Ludus is often simply about laughter and enjoyment.

Eros love is characterized by passion and desire. Although associated with the initiation of lasting marital relationships, the Greeks were not thinking about romance. They focused on everyday life. Eros was passionate emotion, regardless of the context. They knew it could be irrational and dangerous. Eros involved a loss of self-control that frightened them. They therefore admonish us to learn to subdue our passions.

We see Eros, uncontrolled passion, as irrational and dangerous in the higher degrees. Our ancient brethren knew unbridled passion for any cause or person could be negative and detrimental.

Pragma refers to mature love, a love developed with the passage of time; steady commitment, mutual understanding, compromise and patience. It describes the deliberate, intentional love of long married couples.

Pragma love is more akin to “standing in the love” than “falling in love.” Brethren who have been married more years than they have not been married well understand this idea.

Philia love alludes to friendship. It is the love and affection we enjoy as Masonic Brothers. We speak of it in the first section of the Master Mason degree. Our three legendary Grand Masters exemplify philia.

Aristotle argued that a just and flourishing society required many such friendships. Philia friendships and love are founded on exemplary-character and concern for others without regard to personal benefit. Facebook friends don’t qualify. He also asserted that one should be happy and satisfied to have only five such friends during their entire live. Such it may be among the profane; but inside the Fraternity, we have many philia friends.

Finally, agape love is a selfless love for all mankind, “the high, the low, the rich and the poor.” Agape love requires tolerance and empathy. In Buddhism, the idea of charity or love is expressed as “universal loving kindness.” Agape is probably the most difficult form of charity to practice in this discordant world in which we live.

We have pledged to be charitable towards all men in the Entered Apprentice degree -- we committed to loving all mankind. That commitment is agape love, that is real charity!

Charity and love – it takes many forms inside and outside the Fraternity: eros, philia, ludus, philautia, pragma or agape.

The 18th degree instructs us that the Law of Love, and of Charity, is the “same in every nation and consistent with every religion.”

Pausing to reflect, we might notice that each of these words for charity or love can be used as a verb, not just as a noun. Charity and love are not always something we feel – they are something we do.

As we attend to this holiday and religious season, and as we begin a new year, let us again recall one final instruction from the 18th degree.

The Degree of Knight Rose Croix instructs us that Charity, that Love is Work and Action.

Charity is Work and Action. It is something we must do. The practice and conduct of Charity, of Love, is our duty. Masonically and otherwise. 

*Editor’s note: this missive was adapted from a presentation by Casey A. Fletcher, 320 KCCCH, KYCH, to the Valley of Tampa, AASR, SJ. He is the sitting Master of Tuscan Lodge No. 6 in Bartow, Florida.*



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 FAX: (813) 228-7623  
 E-MAIL: SECRETARY@HILLSBOROUGH25.ORG  
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## 2018 LODGE OFFICERS

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 Billy D. Scott, III ..... Senior Warden  
 Billy D. Schmidt ..... Junior Warden  
 R.:W.: Joseph A. Gonzalez, P.D.D.G.M. .... Treasurer  
 W.: John "Drew" Baldwin, P.M. .... Secretary  
 Bryan Seland ..... Senior Deacon  
 Marquise Blair ..... Junior Deacon  
 Matthew Wise ..... Senior Steward  
 Saraj Nayee ..... Junior Steward  
 Rodney W. Kohler ..... Associate Steward  
 Jerry King ..... Marshal  
 R.:W.: Steven J. Silvers, P.D.D.G.M. .... Chaplain  
 Kevin Chaplain. .... Tyler  
 W.: Tom Johnson ..... Treasurer Emeritus  
 R.:W.: C. Donald Prosser, P.D.D.G.M. .... Historian  
 W.: Bob Davidson ..... Musician

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