



Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 F&AM

Trestle Board

January - June 2024, A.L. 6024

Greetings from Hillsborough Lodge No. 25!

We have had an incredibly busy and productive six months here at Hillsborough Lodge. During this period, we've proudly held three Fellow Craft Degrees, two Entered Apprentice Degrees, and one Master Mason Degree. These events have been a testament to our commitment and dedication to the craft and our brothers.

In exciting news, we are thrilled to announce that Hillsborough Lodge is going paperless! Our all-new digital Trestle Board is now live, making it easier and more convenient for everyone to stay informed and engaged with our lodge activities.

We value the input and suggestions from our Brothers and would love to hear your ideas for the next issue of the Trestle Board. Please let us know what you would like to see featured, whether it's lodge news, member highlights, educational pieces, or anything else that can enrich our Masonic journey together.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. Together, we are building a stronger and more connected Lodge!

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[Visit our Online Calendar at hillsborough25.org for upcoming events](http://hillsborough25.org)
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Worshipful Master | W.: Alexander Rodriguez Galano



Brethren,

I would like to thank everybody who attended the January 2024 Officer 's Installation. I am honored to serve Hillsborough Lodge 25 as is Worshipful Master for 2024. It is with pleasure and dedication that I will do my very best to lead and guide the lodge to the standards that have been traditionally present in all preceding years.

I was initiated on September 10th, 1995, in Baracoa Lodge, Cuba, and raised on December 24th, 1995. I have occupied officer's position like Senior Steward, Master of Ceremonies, Junior, and Senior Warden. I left Cuba in June 2005 and affiliated to Albert Edward Lodge 1780 in England. I became WM of AEL 1780 and in 2015 I was elected and installed as Senior Grand Steward of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Hampshire and Isle of Whyte. I moved to Florida in 2015 and in 2018 I affiliated with Hillsborough Lodge 25 where I occupied in the line of officers the positions of Marshal, Senior Deacon, Junior, and Senior Warden.

After our installation ceremony we had our first Stated Meeting of the year where we celebrated the 174th anniversary of Hillsborough Lodge 25. I want to thank R.:W.: Steve Silvers for a wonderful Presentation of our lodge history. There was a great attendance from brothers of our district, especially a group of brothers from Universal Lodge 178. I also want to thank Br David Ball for his Presentation "The Sons of Light" at the Speaker 's series.

The fraternal and educational work of our institution is our primary concern. In this first quarter of the year, we have already had two Fellow Craft Degree Ceremonies and One Master Mason. Our lodge won the Column Under Construction award in the February and March meeting at the District School of Instruction. The Column Under Construction is awarded to the lodge with the most members in attendance at the District 19 School of Instruction.

Freemasonry is about building friendships, brotherly love, and community service. I want thank Br Michael Huster for organizing and leading once year more, the charity event of "Paint Your Heart Out" as well as all those brothers, families and friend who attended.

"Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but really great people make you feel that you too can become great." -Mark Twain

Sincerely and fraternally,

Alexander Rodriguez Galano, Worshipful Master

Senior Warden | Bro. Michael S. Wilson



Dear Brothers,

As we gather to reflect on the past year and look forward to the promising future ahead, it is with great honor and gratitude that we extend our heartfelt thanks to our immediate Past Master, W. Ritch Carroll. Under his steadfast leadership and unwavering dedication, our lodge experienced a truly remarkable journey. His tireless efforts have propelled us forward, and we stand in awe of the myriad accomplishments achieved during his tenure in the East.

From the depths of our hearts, we congratulate our newly installed Worshipful Master, W. Alex Galano. As he embarks on his journey in the East, we have full confidence that his leadership will continue to guide our lodge to even greater heights. With his vision and commitment, we eagerly anticipate another year filled with growth, harmony, and prosperity.

To all the newly elected and appointed officers, we extend our warmest congratulations. Your willingness to serve and dedication to our lodge are commendable, and we are confident that together, we will navigate the challenges and seize the opportunities that lie ahead. Let us embark on this journey united in purpose and steadfast in our resolve to uphold the principles of our craft.

I would be remiss if I did not express my sincere gratitude to the brothers who have entrusted me with the role of Senior Warden for another year. It is both an honor and a privilege to serve alongside such esteemed brethren, and I am committed to contributing my utmost to the continued success of our lodge.

Reflecting on the tasks we have completed fills us with a sense of pride and accomplishment. From plumbing repairs to electrical fixes, each project undertaken has been a testament to our collective dedication to maintaining our sacred space. As we look ahead, we are excited to embark on upcoming projects such as roof replacement, as we continuously strive to enhance and improve our beloved lodge.

In addition to our physical endeavors, we have also enriched our lodge through the conferral of degrees. It is with great pleasure that we announce the successful completion of the Fellow Craft Degree on April 2nd and the Master Mason Degree on April 16th. These rituals not only mark significant milestones in the journey of our brethren but also serve as a reaffirmation of our commitment to the principles of Freemasonry.

Lastly, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the brothers who participated in the Paint Your Heart Out charity event. Your selfless dedication to serving our community exemplifies the true spirit of Freemasonry, and we are grateful for your unwavering support.

As we stand on the threshold of a new chapter in our lodge's history, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to brotherly love, relief, and truth. Together, let us continue to build a legacy that will endure for generations to come.

Fraternally yours, Michael S. Wilson, Senior Warden

Junior Warden | Bro. Horatio M. Johnson



My Brothers,

I wish to thank the brethren for having the trust and confidence in me to elect me Junior Warden for 2024. Congratulations to my fellow officers on their elections and appointments! As always, we have a great TEAM of brothers ready to serve you in the officer line. I believe I can speak for us all saying that we look forward to a prosperous and productive year!

Thank you, W.: Ritch Carroll, for your innovation of new ideas to continue active attendance and involvement with current and new brothers. Your family first and team always charisma and positive attitude is what makes you a leader amongst leaders. BRAVO ZULU SHIPMATE!

I look forward to our newly raised brothers being involved in the Lodge and I welcome any conversation to make you feel welcome and facilitate your involvement. There are many committees you can be part of, and we can certainly use your expertise and input. I hope to see many of our long-term brothers at Lodge as well and hopefully renew your commitment to the craft. We are always looking for brothers to get plugged into our ritual work and become instructors for our new brothers.

I would extend a challenge to all brothers to further your Masonic career in attending Masonic Leadership Training (MLT) and District School of Instruction (DSI). In addition, improve yourself in Masonry by earning Master Mason I, II, III and Leadership Officer Training Course (LOTIC). These are the fundamentals of our fraternity to become a GREAT LEADER in any Lodge! This lodge only exists to serve you and the craft. Come be on the TEAM!

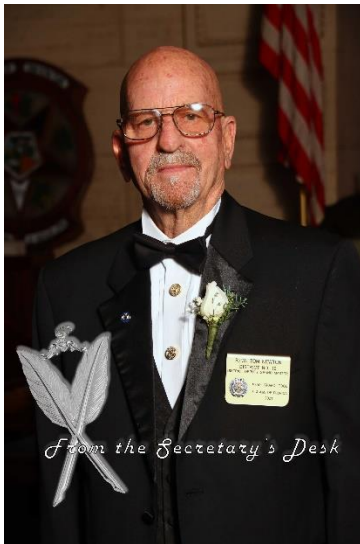
In the coming weeks, I will be putting a sign-up sheet in the dining room so that any brother can volunteer to supply a meal on one of our stated or called communications. I will greatly appreciate any brother that can step up and take a meal to serve your brothers. In show casing your delicious cooking skills!

I hope this new year coming finds you, your family, and friends prosperous, happy, and healthy and you had a wonderful holiday season. "FORWARD TOGETHER!"

Fraternally,

Horatio M. Johnson, Junior Warden

Secretary | R:W: Tom Newton



My Brothers,

With a quarter of the year behind us, there are issues that need to be addressed. As usual, there are many brothers who have not paid their dues for 2024. Worshipful Billy Schmidt sent out the dues notices and included an information card in each one showing two ways to pay your dues online. Many brothers have used either [Square](#) ([click here for the Square payment portal](#)) or the [Amity App](#) to pay their dues. Many have sent a check to the lodge which have all been deposited and dues cards sent out. I do offer the following apology for some of the checks sitting for several months before being deposited. There was some confusion in the transition of the secretary's office which caused a delay in getting many of the checks deposited. However, there are still many brothers who have not paid their dues for 2024. To avoid getting a summons to show why your dues have not been paid, please go online, or send in a check to renew your membership in the greatest fraternity on earth.

We are getting many dues notices returned as undeliverable. Did you move and did you notify the lodge of your change of address? If you have not received your 2024 dues notice, please contact the lodge by mail or call the lodge number at **(813) 229-2305** and leave a message on the grasshopper voice mail. I would ask that you speak slowly and any word that might not be clear, that you spell it out. Make sure to leave your phone number on the message. If I can't understand what you are saying, I will call you back and clarify what I can't understand or if something is missing, like your new ZIP code.

There seems to be a renewed interest in Masonry by the younger generation. We see petitioners on a weekly basis coming to the lodge to meet the brothers and to let us get to know them. Do you know someone who would be a good candidate for Masonry, invite them to join us on Tuesday nights for dinner and see the lodge and meet the brothers. We are always willing to talk to perspective candidates for the three symbolic degrees. Dinners start at 6:30 PM and we start a stated communication at 7:15 PM and called communications at 7:30 PM. Come to the lodge and bring a guest.

The more information we have in the office, the better we can serve the craft. That became very evident when we sent out notices last year regarding several changes to the by-laws and the notice to the craft that we had received an offer to sell the building. A great crowd that night with the changes to the by-laws being approved, and the brothers deciding not to entertain the offer to sell the building. Parking is still an issue that we are working on with the city of Tampa and various parking lot owners. We can no longer use the parking lot behind the lodge, so plan to find a parking place on the street and be prepared to pay for that parking until we can get something worked out.

Table lodge will be September 3rd, 2024 at the Shrine. Tickets will be available soon, so plan to attend and by your tickets as soon as they are available. Our Junior Warden is working hard to make this a memorable event, so support him and the lodge by making your plans now to join us on September 3rd.

Last but not least, remember that this is your lodge and that the officers who have been elected to serve are serving for you. Your input into the lodge is vital. Changes have been made to the interior of the building and more are planned. Come down and see what your lodge is doing to keep the building looking great and up to date. Try to schedule on Tuesday night a month to come to the lodge and meet with the officers and other members of this great lodge.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

RW Thomas C. Newton, PDDGM, Secretary

Upcoming Events

For updated calendars, please visit our website calendar [here](#).

Hillsborough Lodge No. 25							Jul 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat							
30	1	2	3	4	5	6							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere		7pm - District 19 School of	6:30pm - Masonic Education		1pm - Tampa Chapter No. 11,							
7	8	9	10	11	12	13							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	6:30pm - Business Meeting -		6:30pm - Masonic Education 7pm - Ritual Practice H25 @	7pm - Masonic Park Board								
14	15	16	17	18	19	20							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	6:30pm - Master Mason		6:30pm - Masonic Education		1pm - Tampa Chapter No. 11,							
21	22	23	24	25	26	27							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	6:30pm - Speakers Series /		6:30pm - Masonic Education 7pm - Ritual Practice H25 @									
28	29	30	31	1	2	3							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere			6:30pm - Masonic Education		1pm - Tampa Chapter No. 11,							

1 - Website Calendar | July 2024

Hillsborough Lodge No. 25							Aug 2024 (Eastern Time - New York)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat							
28	29	30	31	1	2	3							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere			6:30pm - Masonic Education		1pm - Tampa Chapter No. 11,							
4	5	6	7	8	9	10							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	CLOSED - Lodge Dark in	7pm - District 19 School of	6:30pm - Masonic Education 7pm - Ritual Practice H25 @	7pm - Masonic Park Board								
11	12	13	14	15	16	17							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	CLOSED - Lodge Dark in		6:30pm - Masonic Education		1pm - Tampa Chapter No. 11,							
18	19	20	21	22	23	24							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	CLOSED - Lodge Dark in		6:30pm - Masonic Education 7pm - Ritual Practice H25 @									
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
	7:30pm - Paul Revere	CLOSED - Lodge Dark in		6:30pm - Masonic Education									

2 - Website Calendar | August 2024

Recent Degrees & Events



3 - We had the honor and privilege of having the **Most Worshipful Grand Master Don Cowart** of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Florida, **Past Grand Master Most Worshipful Dick Martinez**, **Right Worshipful Tony Chavez** and **Right Worshipful Jack Hampton** attend our stated meeting on June 10, 2024. A great night of fellowship and Brotherhood!



4 - Congratulations to **Brothers Harris and Villamin** on being Initiated an Entered Apprentice this evening! Thank you to the degree team for an excellent degree, especially our **Junior Warden Horatio Johnson** for sitting in the East for the first time, to **Right Worshipful Steve Silvers** for the lecture, and to **Worshipful Master Alex Galano** for the charge. And a special thank you to everyone who were able and willing to come out this evening including our district instructor, **Right Honorable Jeremy Tabak**! Pictured is everyone who were able to stay until the end.



5 - Congratulations to **Brothers Christian Meguire, Colton Pepin, Jose Godinho and Dominic Perone** on being Passed to the Degree of Fellow Craft last night! Thank you to **Brother Cliff Shanholtzer** for sitting in the East for the first time, to **Right Honorable Brian Manne** for the lecture, to **Brother Ken Gibson** for the charge, to the degree team, and to everyone who was willing and able to attend.



6 - Congratulations to **Brother Palm** on being initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason Tuesday evening. Thanks go out to the degree team for their outstanding work, to **Right Worshipful Silvers** for a great lecture, and to **Right Worshipful Billy Scott** for the charge. Special thanks to everyone who was able and willing to make it out! Pictured is everyone who was able to make it until the end.

23rd Annual Hillsborough 25 Table Lodge



Tuesday September 3, 2024

6:30 PM — 9:30 PM EDT

Traditionally, upon completion of Masonic labors, a repast was attended and enjoyed by all the Members, as the Lodge was said to be at refreshment. In the early nineteenth century, a much more formal approach to refreshment was adopted by French Freemasons. It was termed a Loge de Table, or Table Lodge. The Table Lodge was opened in the Entered Apprentice degree for the purpose of allowing Brothers who had received the first degree to be present for the occasion. A similar practice was adopted by our Lodge 23 years ago by Worshipful Walter Schoepf, Past Master 2005. Since then, this tradition has continued and the annual Hillsborough No. 25 Table Lodge has become an event that Brothers from around the State look forward to each year.

This event is open to all Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts. A valid and current Dues Card, or Avouchment for EA's & FC's, is required by Master Masons in good standing. Aprons are not required. This event is for Masons only. Admission ticket includes the multiple course meal, beverages, commemorative cannon glass, full program. All sales are final, no refunds or equivalent cash value.

In previous Table Lodges, we enjoyed fellowship and great food with over 150 Brothers in attendance. Below is an example of our multiple course meal:

- 1st Course: Shaved Prosciutto and Melon Appetizer
- 2nd Course: Chilled Cucumber Soup
- 3rd Course: Maryland Crab Cake w/ Creole Marmalade
- 4th Course: Garden Salad w/ Balsamic Dressing
- 5th Course: Fresh Sorbet w/ Mint
- 6th Course: Chicken Champagne w/ Wild Mushrooms and Beef Medallions w/ Spatzle and Vegetable Medley
- 7th Course: Strudel à la Mode w/ Vanilla Bean Ice Cream
- Sides & Drinks: Dinner Rolls w/ Butter, Iced Tea, Coffee, Water, and of course the Cannon Toasts.

The upcoming Annual Table Lodge will be no exception! The menu may change, but the fellowship and spirit of the event will only get better! We look forward to your attendance!

[Click this link to purchase your Table Lodge ticket](#)

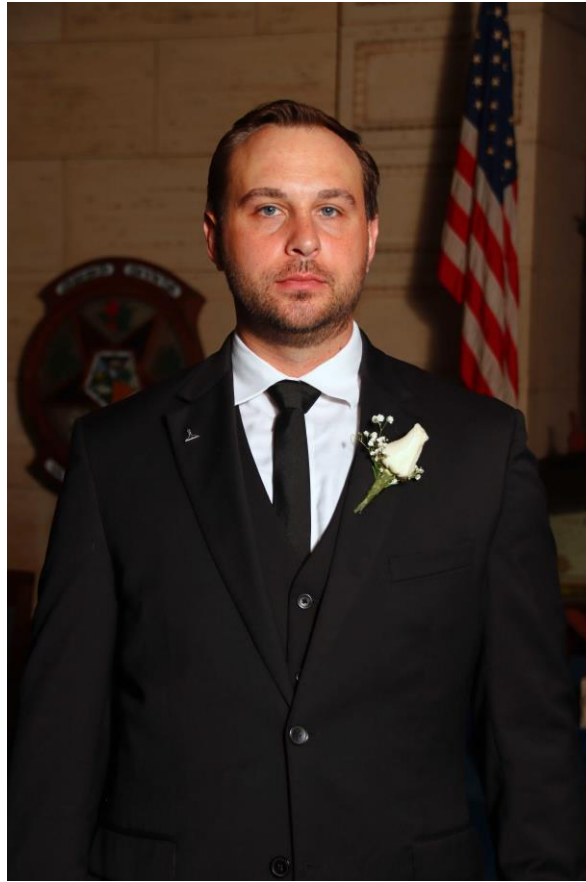
2024 Lodge Officers



2024 Officers



*W.: Alexander Rodriguez Galano **Worshipful Master***



*Bro. Michael S. Wilson **Senior Warden***



*Bro. Horatio M. Johnson **Junior Warden***



*Bro. Alejandro Rodriguez **Senior Deacon***



*Bro. Shad Davis **Junior Deacon***



*Bro. Clifford Shanholtzer **Senior Steward***



*Bro. David Ball **Junior Steward***



7 - Bro. John Thomas Bast III **Marshal**



8 - Bro. Mike Huster **Tyler**



9 - **R.:W.:** Tom Newton **Secretary**



10 - **R.:W.:** Billy Scott III **Treasurer**



11 - R.⚔W.⚔ Steven Silvers *Chaplain*

Communication Methods

[Lodge Website](#)

[Lodge Facebook](#)

[Lodge X \(Twitter\)](#)

[Lodge Instagram](#)

[Lodge LinkedIn](#)

[Lodge Square Payment Portal](#)

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