



TAMPA BAY LODGE No. 252



APR/MAY

Trestleboard

2014

354 MAIN STREET SAFETY HARBOR, FL; WEBSITE [HTTP://WWW.TNTPC.COM/252](http://www.tntpc.com/252)

FROM THE EAST

Brethren,

Time is really flying by. We have had a busy and productive three months with three Stated Meetings and an EA Degree Initiating three new Brothers. I want to give a warm welcome Brothers James Carl Burgess, Richard Joseph Cummings and Mark Timothy Kasper. The members of Tampa Bay Lodge are proud of our Degree Work, this is due to the hard work and dedication of our cast members.

At our February 18th Stated Meeting we voted on and approved our budget for 2014. We balloted on our By-Law Amendments to raise our dues in 2015 to \$100.00 a year and the new member fee for the three degrees to \$300.00. The Amendments were approved by a favorable ballot of over 75%.

I had the Honor and Privilege of presenting W.: Ron Bart his 50 year pin. Thank you Ron for your 50 years of service to our beloved Fraternity.

We have already had two Family Dinner Night's out. The dinners were arranged by our Brother the J.W. Chris Adkins.

The Lodge defibrillator- AED is now located in the front room on the wall behind the buffet table along with the first aid kit. On March 11th two Para-



medics from Sun Star Ambulance Service came to our Lodge, free of charge, and instructed the eighteen Brothers who attended how to properly use the AED and how to perform CPR as well as the Heimlich Maneuver for choking. Everyone that attended obtained some valuable information that may someday enable them to save someone's life.

Our Secretary Brother Cesar Blanco managed to get the Lodge a more cost effective Cell Phone Plan reducing the cost of \$330.00 a year down to \$100.00 a year with 1000 minutes.

We are looking into the cost of adding fire alarm protection to our existing monitored alarm system. The two Lodge Fire extinguishers have been serviced and will be wall mounted in prominent locations.

We have had the D.D.G.M.'s commit-

teeman speak on Masonic Education at all three of the Stated Meetings.

Progress is being made on the Lodge roof problem, a letter has been sent to the property owner next door. We are waiting for a response.

Our Next Stated Meeting will be on April 15th and is the Official Visit of our D.D.G.M. R.: W.: Glen Bishop and his committee men.

Don't forget our Annual Steak Dinner on April 12th. Our Brother the J.W. will have the details in his column, as well as details of other upcoming events.

Remember to check the Lodge web site calendar for future events from now through June.

If it's been a while since you have attended a Lodge Meeting or a Degree, please come out and enjoy the fellowship, peace and harmony with your Brethren.

As always, thank you in advance for your continued cooperation and support!

Fraternally,
Bill Kelm W.: M.:
bkelm26@gmail.com

FROM THE WEST

Greetings Brethren,

Hopefully all is well with you and your family. This year seems to be moving along very swift and a lot of things are being changed. But I hope all will see that the changes are for the better. Our lodge is getting a lot of new visitors and great comments about how well we do things. I believe these new changes the Worshipful Master is implementing will bring us up even more. I would also like to thank our Secretary for all the hard work and time he is putting in. I would also like to say thank you to Worshipful Coats for getting our let-

ter together regarding the roof issues. I would like to congratulate our Worshipful Master on his meetings and setting what we believe to be the record for the most first time visitors at a single meeting. The Jr. Warden is doing a fine job with food, I know how hard it is to pull that off with the busy schedule he has. In closing I hope to see all of you at the lodge on Tuesday for our stated meeting and if you know a brother who hasn't been to the Lodge in a while, give him a shout and ask him to come enjoy the fellowship once again.

Fraternally,

Bro. Timothy (Duke) Pierce SW
 duke350@tampabay.rr.com



STATUS OF NEW APPLICANTS, EA, FC, MM

<p><u>Awaiting Candidates:</u></p>	<p><u>Youngest EA Brothers:</u></p> <p>Bro. David Blanco Bro. William Ayers Bro. Peter Solitro Bro. Robert S. Hill Jr. Bro. James Carl Burgess</p>	<p>Bro. Richard J Cummings Bro. Mark Timothy Kaspar</p> <p><u>Just Passed to FC:</u></p>	<p><u>Recently Raised to MM:</u></p> <p>Bro. Andrew Bennett Bro. Julius Santiago Bro. Scott Laubish</p>
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!!ATTENTION!!

Brothers,

Please be sure to visit our new and improved website at <http://www.tntpc.com/252>

You can find useful information at our website, and when you see him, be sure to thank Bro. Christopher Watts for his hard work on our Lodge website.

Also, if you would like to **save the Lodge money** by getting the electronic version of the Trestleboard emailed to you, please email R:H: Mike Rhoades at **WMY2K7@gmail.com** and put "Electronic Trestleboard" in the subject line. We can save a bundle on postage and printing costs!!!

FROM THE SOUTH

Brethren,

It has been a great start to what will really be a great year. What I've enjoyed most are the visitors from other lodges. It's very refreshing to see Freemasonry alive across the globe and hear the assurances from Brothers of other jurisdictions that we truly have a special lodge. We should all make it a point to visit another lodge when abroad in the world; especially within our own jurisdiction. I've made it a goal to visit at least two other lodges within our district this year and would very much enjoy it if you were to join me. There is a lot in store for the rest of the year. The first two of our "Family Night

Out", which is the Saturday after each stated meeting, have been really successful and we look forward to many more.

In lieu of April Family Night Out we will be having our Annual Steak Dinner. This is one of two large fundraisers we have for the lodge and your participation is greatly needed. This year's steak dinner will be Saturday, April 12th 2014, at the lodge from 4-6pm. The cost per person is \$15. Please join us and let's make this the largest fundraiser yet.

May 17th at 6:30pm the lodge will host its first Pot Luck Dinner in 2014. The event will be held at the lodge.

Please plan to attend for some great fellowship, great food and outstanding cheesecake.

Fraternally,

Bro. Chris Adkins JW



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Note: The Lodge will be open every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6:00 - 8:00pm for instruction/practice.

APRIL:

- 12th - Steak Dinner @ Tampa Bay Lodge serving dinner from 4-6PM
- 15th - Stated Meeting - DDGM Official Visit.

MAY:

- 17th - Pot Luck Dinner @ Tampa Bay Lodge, 6:30PM
- 26th, 27th, and 28th - 185th Annual Grand Communication @ Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando

JUNE:

- 14th - Grand Masters Official Visit, Supper 6pm, Tyled Meeting/Ladies Program 7pm.
- 17th - Stated Meeting,
- 28th - Family Day BBQ @ John Chestnut Park, shelter #10, 1pm-4pm.



TAMPA BAY LODGE 252

~~ANNUAL STEAK~~

~~DINNER~~

YOUR \$15 DONATION

INCLUDES:

**NY STRIP STEAK, POTATO,
SALAD, VEGGIES, DRINK AND
DESSERT!**

SATURDAY April 12, 2014 from 4-6PM

At Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252

354 Main St., Safety Harbor



The Influence of Masonry on My Life

By W.: Bro. Steven Singleton, Past Master, Frontier Masonic Lodge #48

Most men who become Masons do not go around explaining their reasons to friends and neighbors. Maybe that is why our fraternal order is suffering through the pangs of lagging membership and interest. I hope by sharing my story, more men will step forward and explain the inner feelings of Masonry to others, and thereby spark an interest in what make this organization so special and separate from others.

I grew up in a Masonic home. My Dad had been a Mason as long as I can remember. When my brother and I were younger, he would disappear into a room with one of his Masonic friends to do "secret" stuff. Once every two weeks or so he would go down to the lodge for a meeting. We didn't know what he was doing, but he seemed to enjoy it.

When my brother and I were in our late teens, a DeMolay chapter started in our town and he took us to join. It wasn't a question of whether we wanted to join, we were going to join and experience it for ourselves before making judgment. It was a good move on his part. My brother and I had our first experience with a fraternity and have great memories of our time with the South Carolina DeMolays.

Time goes by and I go to college, then get commissioned in the Navy. Seeing the world was a great experience for a young man, but there certainly was no time to join an "old guys" organization like Masons. I moved around every two to three years for my entire career, knowing that even if I wanted to join, I would have to move on before I could get involved.

All that time, my Dad kept up his interest in the Lodge and was one of the leaders of Eastern Star along with my step-mother. My wife and I went to one of their installations a few years ago and thought how "funny" it was to listen to all those people ramble on about their love of their friends, etc, etc.

A few years later, my Dad was diagnosed with cancer. He battled this disease while I watched from a distance. I visited as often as I could and tried to enjoy every last, precious minute in a life I knew was coming to an end. It seemed that every time I visited, all the way up until my Dad's death, he had a buddy who was always there. Always. They had been in the lodge together, and being lodge brothers made them brothers of the heart. My Dad's friend spent every day of six months by my father's side. When my step-mother was exhausted from staying at the hospital, he was there. When something needed to be done at the house, he was there. When the final moments of my Dad's life slipped away, he was there. At my father's funeral, the chapel was filled with men who he had touched and who had touched him through Masonry.

Nine years have past and my Dad's closest Masonic brother is still there. Even though my step-mom is now in an assisted living facility, the brother checks up on the house and calls her to see how she is doing. All this, despite the fact that he recently lost a daughter and his own wife has been diagnosed with cancer.

Why did he do it? What drives this type of friendship and devotion? What bond existed between my Dad and these men that I never experienced in over 40 years of my life?

The answer was that they were Freemasons. They understood their obligation to worthy distressed Master Masons, their wives, widows and orphans. They were family and lived up to the Masonic ideals that permeate their obligations.

And what brought me to this revelation? I am now Past Master of Frontier Lodge #48 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. I am also a member of York Rite, National Sojourners, DeMolay chapter Dad, past Oklahoma DeMolay State Dad, and the proud father of a DeMolay. All of this still does not begin to repay the debt I owe this fraternity for the love and devotion they showed my father. I know where it came from, and only hope I can return the favor at some point in my life. That is the never-ending cycle of Freemasonry.

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1925 Earle A. Risbeck
 1926 Willis Booth
 1927 G.S. McMullen
 1928 L.A. Morgan
 1929 A.M. McMullen
 1930 R.J. Knight
 1931 L.B. Booth
 1932 A.M. McMullen
 1933 George Woodell
 1934 T.P. Walton
 1935 Thomas Bates
 1936 Abraham Lasher
 1937 W.J. Strickland
 1938 Glen O. Petree
 1939 Bryan Mizell
 1940 S. G. Moore
 1941 Monroe Booth
 1942 Lee McMullen
 1943 William Neese
 1944 Harry Smith
 1945 D. Lame
 1946 D. Lame
 1947 Robert McMullen
 1948 Dwight Shower
 1949 R.H. Blanchard
 1950 Gary Linton
 1951 W.M. Zur
 1952 W.J. Strickland
 1953 Harry Kindred
 1954 James Lashbrook
 1955 Vernon Mixter
 1956 Ross Gambel
 1957 Daniel Gladstone
 1958 Austin Roberts
 1959 S.Z. Douglas, Jr. *
 1960 Elmer Phillips
 1961 Dwight Shower, Jr.
 1962 John Atkinson
 1963 Allen McMullen
 1964 Allan Dinsmore
 1965 Howard Kramer
 1966 Fred Richards
 1967 Frank Denby
 1968 F. Richardson
 1969 Fritz Kocka
 1970 Bobbie Dean Woodall
 1971 Ronald Nicodemus
 1972 C. Kramer
 1973 Howard M. Smith
 1974 Dennis Distin
 1975 Bruce Davis
 1976 Truman W. Cole
 1977 S.Z. Douglas, Jr.*
 1978 George A Magoon
 1979 George R. Sullivan
 1980 Robert F. Heil
 1981 Dennis G. Smith
 1982 Cyrus W. Cole
 1983 Richard U. Granthum
 1984 Scott Shimer

1985 Charles A. Melling *
 1986 Marvin W. Gerhard *
 1987 Ralph H. Swanker
 1988 Jacob J. Krawiec
 1989 Jay (Doc) Holliday
 1990 Richard J. Whalen Sr. *
 1991 Norman M. Sutherby
 1992 Andrew M. Nicholson
 1993 Richard J. Whalen Jr.
 1994 Donald E. Walker
 1995 John E. Drewett *
 1996 Lynn F. Coleman
 1997 Robert A. McGoldrick
 1998 R. James Rocha^*
 1999 Edward V. Bethel
 2000 Anthony E. Rhoades^*
 2001 Andrew Foster
 2002 Bruce Moir
 2003 David Woolley
 2004 Robert Lutterman
 2005 Kelfryn James
 2006 Matt Thaisen
 2007 Mike Rhoades ^
 2008 Darryl Ambler
 2009 Lee Edmonds
 2010 Jim Messier
 2011 Ron Bart
 2012 Jon B. Coats
 2013 Lawrence Wright

* P.D.D.G.M.

^ P.D.I.



Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252 - - Officers 2014



Worshipful Master
 William Kelm



Senior Warden
 Timothy Pierce



Junior Warden
 Christopher Adkins

Secretary
 Bro. Cesar Blanco

Senior Deacon
 Bro. Andrew Bennett

Senior Steward
 Bro. Martin Baum

Chaplain
 Bro. Tom Farkas

Musician
 Bro. John Nagy

Lodge Instructor
 R.:H.: Mike Rhoades

Treasurer
 W.: Kelfryn James

Junior Deacon
 Bro. Julius Santiago

Junior Steward
 Bro. Chris Watts

Tyler
 Bro. Al Chabot

Marshall
 W.: Larry Wright