



TAMPA BAY LODGE No. 252



JUNE/JULY

Trestleboard

2020

354 MAIN STREET SAFETY HARBOR, FL;
WEBSITE [HTTP://WWW.TAMPABAYLODGE.ORG](http://www.tampabaylodge.org)

FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brothers,

At last I am able to reach out and announce that Tampa Bay #252 will be open for full business starting in July! As many were concerned about opening too quickly, I opened the lodge for instruction and practice, but decided to remain closed for meetings and degrees this month. I feel this is the time to move forward and open up the rest of the lodge for normal operations. Most of the brothers that I have spoken with desperately want to return, and I have seen this in other lodges that I have attended this month, as they have opened without any complications and have had an above average turn out.

With that being said, Bro. Michael Rhoades has returned to his dedicated attendance every Tuesday and Thursday evenings for practice and instruction. Other mentors and brothers have also been coming around again, and I would ask that anyone that would like to stop by and say hello please do so. I know we all are missing the brotherhood of the fraternity.

As I stated in the last trestle board, we will not be exercising our option to go dark for the months of July and August this year. Tampa Bay #252 will resume our normal stated meetings July 21st, with the following changes. Our Brother John Sears will be taking temperature checks at the door, and in accordance with the CDC recommendations not allowing any brother to enter the building with a temperature above 100.4 degrees. Also all meals for our meetings and degrees will be suspended for the foreseeable future. I realize other lodges have continued to serve a meal, however the lodges in question have a lot more square footage in their



buildings to allow for social distancing. After careful thought about the size of our building, I do not believe this would be prudent to allow the brothers in such close proximity to one another. We will still continue to provide drinks, including coffee service.

As for all coming into the lodge, our Brother Rusty Valle has already purchased a large container of hand sanitizer, and I encourage everyone to utilize it. There will also be sanitizing wipes placed in both bathrooms, and I ask that everyone use them to wipe down the handles on the toilet and sink after each use.

Inside the lodge, it will be left to the discretion and comfort of each brother to sit as close, or as far away from others as they so choose to. Please be considerate of your brother's feelings, as some may want more social distancing than others. It is also allowed for any brother to wear a mask or other face covering if they so choose to do so. As I have attended other lodges this month, I have seen a few brother's that have chosen to exercise this option.

Other changes that have or will be affecting

us, has been the cancellation of the yearly fish fry. At this time I do not see us trying to reschedule, even though I would like to see it return. However as we are an active lodge, our schedule seems to pick up and get busier as the year progresses, and I don't want to have to "jam" in the event and crowd the calendar unnecessarily just to have the meal. This decision is still fluid, and if the calendar does allow it to return you can trust your officers that we will consider this.

Also cancelled this year will be the family picnic at John Chestnut Park on July 11th. The county parks have remained opened during this pandemic, however all grilling has been prohibited. I am not sure why this is or how grilling can spread any type of virus. However this policy remains in effect at the county parks, and we would not be able to cook our typical picnic hamburgers and hotdogs.

To continue the sad news, there will also not be any family dinner nights the Saturday after each stated meeting until such time as all restaurants are allowed to open at full capacity. With seating being limited, there is no way to assure reservations at this time, and our numbers normally exceed the maximum that is currently in place, not to mention that many brothers are still not comfortable eating out as of yet.



FROM THE EAST (CONT.)

On a positive note, the degree team is going to start their practices again for an Entered Apprentice degree on Saturday July 25th. This of course is all dependent on the favorable final vote on our new petitioner during our stated meeting. We are all looking forward to returning to degree work, and also to see our Brother Matthew Gorden making his first appearance in the East, as I am certain that he will excel!

Unfortunately, we were unable to conduct our first two quarterly awards due to being shut down. In order not overload any future meetings, these awards will be rescheduled for the third quarter, or the September stated meeting.



During this closed period, Brother Charles Trulock, who was to receive his 65 year award, reached out to let us know that he was traveling back north and requested his award be given to him in his home. Brother Secretary Christopher Adkins and myself

went and presented this award to the brother, and he was grateful for the visit and the recognition of such a fantastic mile mark of 65 years a Mason!

Lastly, there are still two funerals in the works that need to be scheduled, and I would ask the brothers to look for these emails or calendar updates. I am hoping to get them scheduled for next month if the families are willing and hope to see many of our brothers in attendance.

I look forward to see each of you in person in the near future!

Fraternally yours,
Michael R. Hartwick WM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY:

17th - 3rd Friday in Safety Harbor (if available): In front of Lodge, 6pm til?
21th - STATED MEETING: Labor begins at 7:30pm

AUGUST:

18th - STATED MEETING: Labor begins at 7:30pm
21st - 3rd Friday in Safety Harbor (if available): In front of Lodge, 6pm til?

SEPTEMBER:

15th - STATED MEETING: Labor begins at 7:30pm
18th - 3rd Friday in Safety Harbor (if available): In front of Lodge, 6pm til?
26th - ANNUAL SHRIMP BOIL!!

OCTOBER:

16th - 3rd Friday in Safety Harbor (if available): In front of Lodge, 6pm til?
20th - STATED MEETING: Labor begins at 7:30pm
31st - SAFETY HARBOR HALLOWEEN PARADE (if available)

TAMPA BAY LODGE NO. 252 - - OFFICERS 2020



**WORSHIPFUL
MASTER**
Michael Hartwick



SENIOR WARDEN
Ronald McMillan,
PDDGM



JUNIOR WARDEN
Rusty Valle

SECRETARY
W.: Christopher
Adkins

SENIOR DEACON
Bro. Mathew Gordon

SENIOR STEWARD
Bro. Johnny Sears

CHAPLAIN
Bro. Tom Farkas

MUSICIAN
W.: Mark Lemacher

LODGE INSTRUCTOR
R.:H.: Mike Rhoades

TREASURER
W.: Kelfryn James

JUNIOR DEACON
Bro. James Bahm

JUNIOR STEWARD
Bro. Jeffrey Graff

TYLER
Bro. Jay Martin
Minier II

MARSHALL
W.: Aaron Cardenas