

# The Florida Mason



**Grand Lodge of Florida**  
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**Grand Lodge Officers  
 2009 - 2010**

**GRAND MASTER**

**M.: W.: Dale I. Goehrig**  
 (Clermont)

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

**R.: W.: J. Dick Martinez**  
 (Tampa)

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN**

**R.: W.: Jim J Harris**  
 (Sebastian)

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**

**R.: W.: J. L. "George" Aladro**  
 (Palm Bay)

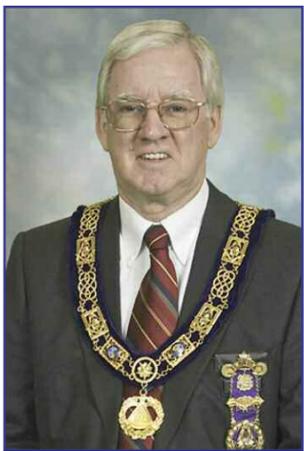
**GRAND TREASURER**

**M.: W.: Elmer G. Coffman, PGM**  
 (Orange Park)

**GRAND SECRETARY**

**M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, PGM**  
 (Jacksonville)

*All submissions for future issues of The Florida Mason should be sent to, Larry Scott, Grand Lodge, 904-354-2339, larryscott@gflmason.org*



**M.: W.: Dale I. Goehrig**  
 Grand Master

**A Message From The Grand Master**

Brethren:

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Grand Master this year. In keeping with my theme of "Unity In Masonry," I am asking every Mason in Florida and all of the Allied and Appendant Orders to redouble your efforts to present Masonry in a positive light to the public throughout Florida. The recent books and movies have given us an entry to the general public that we haven't had in quite a while. The publication "It's About Time!" produced by the Masonic Information Center and distributed to every Lodge in Florida is a plan of action to assist you in achieving the goal of increasing public awareness about our great Fraternity. Please consider working toward winning "The Mark Twain Award" for public awareness by participating with your Lodge using the guidelines in this publication.

The District Meetings have been a great success, and I thank the District Deputies and all those who have had a hand in preparing for them. The donations to all of our Masonic Charities have been tremendous, especially the Grand Master's Charity. We have already turned over \$30,500 to the Johnnie B. Byrd, Sr. Alzheimer's Center and Research Institute through October.

The First Lady's Project, building closets for the residents in the assisted living section of the Masonic Home, is coming along very nicely. We expect to have 13 completed by Christmas. It is a very ambitious project, but one much needed by the residents. It will require a little extra funding from our membership to complete. Please help if you can.

Election of Lodge Officers is coming up very shortly. Let's vote for the good of the Fraternity and maintain peace and harmony in each of the Lodges. Then support the new team of Officers in the coming year.

We have a tremendous opportunity on Saturday, January 23, 2010, to show the country Masonry in action with the 85th Anniversary East-West Shrine Game to be played at the Citrus Bowl in Orlando and to be televised on ESPN2 at 3:00 p.m. It is the oldest college all-star game in the country. Please plan to attend and support the Shrine-Masons as they raise funds and awareness for their great philanthropy, the Shriners Hospitals for Children. And consider visiting our very own hospital right here in Tampa.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Dale I. Goehrig  
 Grand Master



**"UNITY IN MASONRY"**



**R.: W.: J. Dick Martinez**  
 Deputy Grand Master

**A Message From The Deputy Grand Master**

Brethren:

We again find ourselves as a Fraternity in the limelight. With all the media attention and hype that is surrounding Dan Brown's newest book "The Lost Symbol." We should expect an increase in interest in Freemasonry. This can be a great opportunity to share Freemasonry with those who have been considering Masonry as well as an opportunity to dispel the myths and misinformation. From a membership point of view, this is an opportunity we should turn into a positive reality.

We are looking for quality individuals who will become Masons not members, good Masons for our entire Masonic Family. We cannot, nor should we, forget our Appendant Bodies, for each of them do great and noble work, however, without the Blue Lodges they cease to exist. What this means is that we need to use this opportunity to welcome and attract potential members. When asked about "Dan Brown's" book we need to be friendly, confident and knowledgeable about our Fraternity.

I am a strong believer that there are few challenges that Freemasonry or the Masonic Family in general face, that could not be turned around through proper membership. Whether it is financial challenges, leadership challenges, having sufficient qualified Brothers in our Lodges to participate and exemplify the Degrees, or having enough high quality members to participate to make those activities easier, more fun and more successful. With enough members we would never have to consider raising our per capita due to lack of operating funds. And, you can believe, it may create problems such as having to gear up and train the right Brothers to have in place for proper Mentoring, Catchecism Instructors, Masonic Education; enough Brothers that know the Degree Work, to a need to find larger facilities for our meetings. Wouldn't standing room only be tremendous?

Brethren, it is up to us to take full advantage of this and other opportunities that are before us. We can do it, we have done it before and I am absolutely sure we can rise to the occasion once again.

I suggest a new cipher code or formula that I'll borrow from the jurisdiction of Colorado, U+2Y=LTFG which translates to "YOU PLUS 2 PER YEAR = Long-Term Fraternal Growth." When was the last time you discussed Masonry with your family members and friends? Maybe it's time that we get serious about growing our membership and talk to them. Again, we are not looking for Quantity but rather Quality. I am sure that in our circle of influence we have those men that meet our Quality standards. We need to exhibit to these potential members that associating with us would be of benefit to them and their families, and honestly and sincerely explain to them why we are members, how Masonry has impacted our lives and our family's lives and what it means to us.

With all the attention Dan Brown's book is gathering and the History channel having positive documentaries on the Fraternity, we have a golden opportunity before us.

This is our time to seize the moment. Masons rise to the occasion!

Fraternally,  
 J. Dick Martinez  
 Deputy Grand Master

*Messages continued on page 8*

**2009-10 Deadlines:**  
submission dates print dates

**The Florida Mason**  
 Vol. 3, Issue 1: March 10, 2010 ..... April 15, 2010  
 Vol. 3, Issue 2: September 30, 2010.....October 22, 2010

**Masonic Lifestyles**  
 Winter 2009: November 6, 2009..... December 12, 2009  
 Spring 2010: March 31, 2010 .....May 10, 2010

## Springs Lodge No. 378 Awards 25 and 55 Year Pins

Three Members of Springs Lodge No. 378 Free and Accepted Masons, were honored for their combined 130 years service to Masonry. The ceremony was held on April 21, and Springs Lodge presented these Brothers with their respective pins and certificates in recognition of their many years of service to the Craft and to community in which they live.

Masonry, the largest fraternal organization, with Lodges in all the free countries of the world, has existed in its present format since 1717. Its roots, however, extend back to the early 16th century with operative Lodges in Scotland and England.

Springs Lodge, chartered in 1978, comes under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida. The Grand Lodge of Florida was organized on July 6, 1830. Generally, each country has its own Grand Lodge (although a few have more than one) and each State in the United States and each Province in Canada have their own independent Grand Lodge.

Masonry, in Florida, is open to any man who is at least 18 years of age. For further information concerning Masonry in Florida, please look at the Grand Lodge web site: [www.gflmason.org](http://www.gflmason.org) or call Bill Watkins, Secretary of Springs Lodge, at (352) 628-0338.



Pictured are Frank Teal, on the left with 25 years, David Marting, center, with 50 years, and Billy Watkins, on the right, with 55 years.

## Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291 Awards Ernest J. Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship

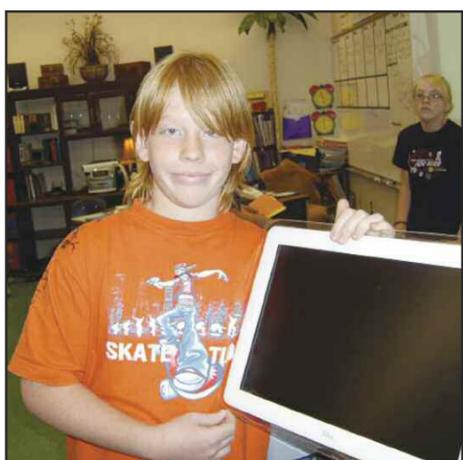
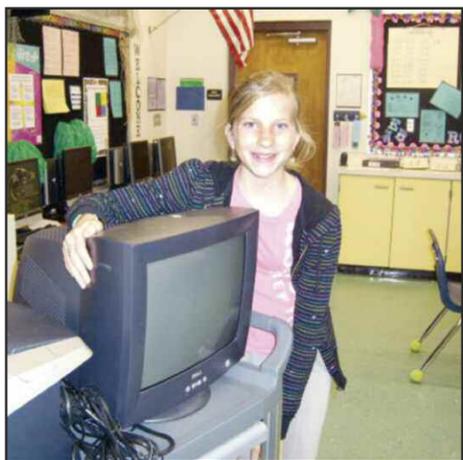
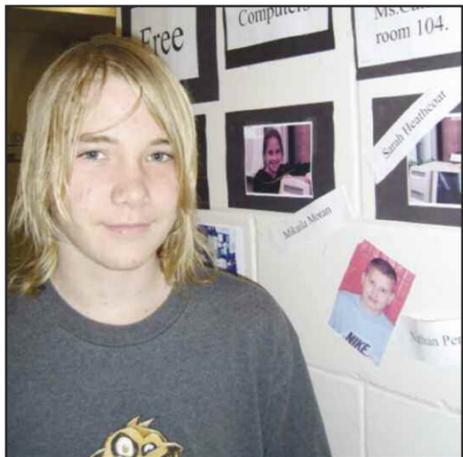
Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291, located at 14020 Marguerite Dr. in Madeira Beach, presented two outstanding students with the 2009 Ernest J. Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship is in the amount of \$2,000.00 each and was began in 1984. Ernest J. Freeman Jr., Master of Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge in 1984, had a vision. This vision was to create a scholarship fund that would grant deserving local students funds to assist in their college tuition. It was also his vision to create a fund which would be self perpetuating thereby being a source of assistance well into the future. After the passing of Ernest Freeman the scholarship fund was renamed in his memory as the "Ernest J. Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund" and has helped support four college students each year since its inception.

The 2009 recipients of the Scholarship are Taylor Knapp and Heather McShane, both Seniors at Boca Ciega High School in Gulfport. Both winners have displayed outstanding academic achievement and dedication to learning. Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge wishes them both well in their college endeavors.

Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge is a fraternal organization for men ages 18 and up and is a strong supporter of the community. Besides offering the annual scholarship the Lodge helps keep the community beautiful through the adopt a highway program, and supports a variety of charitable organizations including PARC, American Cancer Society, Salvation Army and many others. If you are interested in further information about Freemasonry or Gulf Beach Lodge in particular, please visit our website at [www.gulfbeachlodge.org](http://www.gulfbeachlodge.org)



l to r: The 2009 recipients of the Scholarship are Taylor Knapp and Heather McShane, both Seniors at Boca Ciega High School in Gulfport.



## Springs Masonic Lodge No. 378 Continues to Donate Computers to Schools

Springs Masonic Lodge No 378, F&AM, Homosassa Springs, Florida, has been giving donated computers to students at Lecanto Middle School for two and a half years. In that time, over 70 computes have been "cleaned-up" and passed on to deserving students in the sixth grade of LCM. Pictured here are the last three students to receive computers, Lizzy Holliman, Kody Bagwell and Nyt Davis.

During this time of the give-away program, more than 50 computers that were too old or were not in good shape, were disposed of in a proper manner thereby protecting the environment.

Some donors were concerned with the security of their information on the used computers and wanted to remove their hard drive. Without the hard drive, a computer is just a large door-stop so those donors were encouraged to leave the hard drive in the machine and allow Springs Lodge personnel to remove any personal data and/or programs from the computer. In our "clean-up" process, we use a hard drive wiping tool that overwrites all the open spaces and deleted files on the hard drive several times to make it impossible to recover your personal information. This tool is similar to those used by the Department of Defense. Any attempts to restore this data requires expensive and extremely sensitive equipment, yet, it's intended to be technically impossible. Definitely, something the students at Lecanto Middle School would not be pursuing... rest assured, those files are safe and secure.

Bill Watkins,  
Secretary

## 50 Year Mason

Worshipful Bob Montpellier, Hiram Masonic Lodge No. 5, Monticello, Florida, presented Brother Steve Andris his 50 Year Pin and certificate on March 23, 2009. The presentation was for Brother Andris' Home Lodge of Clinton Lodge No. 54 in Savannah, Georgia.



## 50 Year Certificate

We had a Brother Ray Stipanovich celebrate 50 years in the Fraternity. Pictured here receiving his 50 year certificate. Also pictured, Worshipful Master Ornan Lodge No. 117 Fred "Bill" Christman, Senior Warden Mickey Dominguez, and Junior Warden Ed Watson.

## Lake Butler Masonic Lodge Honors Brodie Ellis "Why Education is Important" *By Ted Barber*

Brodie Ellis, the son of Mary Page and Dwayne Ellis and a senior at Union County High School, Lake Butler, Florida, won the Grand Lodge Essay Contest in Zone 2 for 2009. The writing contest involved producing an essay explaining, "Why Education Is Important." The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida has ten zones made up of thirty-four districts. Zone 2 consists of four districts and 34 Lodges extending from Quincy and Carrabelle in the West to Baldwin and Starke in the East. Brodie Ellis' mother, Mary Page, knew about the \$1,000 scholarship for the winners of the essay contest and searched the internet for the application. Brodie did the rest. His opening sentence stated that, "In the world of economics an economy's wealth and standard of living is based on how efficient the workers are." Education to Brodie is one of the "best sources of efficiency in today's markets." Therefore, Brodie concludes that a well-educated person enhances efficiency, wealth, and helps the entire world. Brodie talked about the drive and determination to achieve educational goals and to succeed in life. He stressed goal setting and remaining focused on those goals. Consistency in daily academic achievements allow good grades and in the "real world" consistency is vital. That consistency applies to a person's integrity and honesty. He pointed out that education teaches honesty and trust and is critical in school as well as on the job. Brodie concluded his paper by saying, "The goal of education is to create a person who is consistent, hard working, and honest." Brodie Ellis certainly exemplifies the goal of education and will make his mark in this world.

Attending the May 18, 2009, presentation made by Colan Coody, Worshipful Master of Lake Butler Lodge No. 52, F. & A.M., included his parents, Dwayne and Mary Page Ellis, his grandparents, Jerrell and Clariece Ellis. His Sister, Stacie and his aunt and uncle, Denise Hines and Joel Ellis. The members and guests filled the Lodge dining room and the covered dish supper was outstanding.



## Officers Honored at District Bar-B-Que



The 26th District held a Roasted Hog Bar-B-Que on Saturday, May 9th at the AZAN Shrine Center. The purpose of this event was to honor local Law Enforcement Officers who have distinguished themselves in Brevard County. Officers honored represented, Brevard County Sheriff's Department, Cocoa Beach Police Department, Palm Bay Police Department, Satellite Police Department, Melbourne Police Department, Gang & Violence Task Force, Titusville Police Department, and Corrections Officers. Officers were presented Plaques recognizing their heroic conduct and service commitment to their individual departments and the citizens who trust in them for protection. Also present were: R.: W.: Jim Harris, Junior Grand Warden; M.: W.: Richard Lynn, P.G.M and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge; R.: W.: Jorge Aladro, Member of Jurisprudence Committee and Board of Directors for the Masonic Home; R.: H.: George Goddard, District 26, District Instructor; Worshipful Jim Strickland, President of the 26th District Masonic Association and R.: W.: Bill Ellis, D.D.G.M. for the 26th District.

## Certificate of Appreciation

On Wednesday, June 2, 2009, Brothers from High Twelve Lodge No. 317 presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Florida to Ms. Susanne Shrewsbury, Teacher of the Year at Schwarzkopf Elementary School in Lutz, FL.



*Pictured above are Ms. Shrewsbury, R.: W.: Gil Weisman, and W.: M.: John Warren. R.: W.: Weisman introduced W.: M.: Warren after giving a brief explanation to the student body, teachers, and parents of our origins, who we are, and what Masons do.*

## Dunedin Masonic Lodge No. 192 Recognizing Scholastic Achievement

DUNEDIN, FL, USA (May 29, 2008) - The Brothers of Dunedin Masonic Lodge No. 192 F. & A.M. were pleased to be on hand at Dunedin Elementary for the school's year-end CHAMPS Assembly program recognizing scholastic achievement by the students.

According to Ken Giesow, Lodge/School liaison, "Our Lodge has supported the school for a number of years, but this year we wanted to try something different. Working with school officials, we devised a 'Bikes for Books' program which is intended to encourage the students to read. Basically, we are awarding a new bicycle to the top boy and girl readers in Grades 1 - 5. This is a program that was originally created by Masonic Lodges in the western United States, but we're the first Lodge to implement the program in Florida. All of the bikes were paid for by individual donations by members of our Lodge."

Mrs. Kathy Brickley, the Principal of Dunedin Elementary, appreciated the efforts by the Masons, "This program was very helpful in encouraging our youth to read." The winners included:

GRADE	BOY WINNERS	GIRL WINNERS	PRESENTERS
1 - FIRST	Javan Clarke (Thobe)	Abigal Hernandez (Mrs. Morrison)	Bro. Ryan Schlenker Bro. Steve Andrews
2 - SECOND	Leon (Ms. Crawford)	Kshitija (Mrs. Ausdemore)	Bro. Ray Ingalls W.: Mike Palenik, P.M.
3 - THIRD	Nick Myers (Peterson)	Alyssa Herrera (Peterson)	W.: Shannon McIntosh, P.M. W.: Rome Scerbo, P.M.
4 - FOURTH	Reagan Amnay (Ms. Brooker)	Natalie Schwark (Ms. Brooker)	R.: W.: Chris Schlenker, P.M. R.: W.: Bill McIntosh, P.M., P.D.D.G.M.
5 - FIFTH	Cesare Amexaga (Harper)	Lakaya Burny (Mr. Gamer)	W.: Bob Matheson, P.M. Bro. Dave Seidel



The Lodge also provided \$20 gift certificates for the winners to purchase bicycle safety helmets from Walmart, which worked with the Lodge in purchasing the bikes. The certificates were presented by Deputy Spencer Gross of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department who gave a brief lecture on bicycle safety to the audience.

Dunedin Lodge is pleased with the results of the program and wants to perpetuate it in the years ahead. According to the Master of Dunedin Lodge, Tim Bryce, "Masons have long been supporters of public school systems, Dunedin Lodge is no exception. We are proud of our relationship with Dunedin Elementary and pleased to support them not only with the 'Bikes for Books' but with other programs as well. Youth represents the future for all of us. It is just plain common sense that we support them any way we can. Also, I would like to mention I am incredibly proud of our Brothers who donated the bikes and who were here to present them today."

## Recent Leesburg High Grad Wins Essay Contest

Kerry-Ann Gayle was declared the winner of the "Why I Love America" contest sponsored by Leesburg Lodge No. 58 F&AM. A native of Jamaica, Ms. Gayle came to the USA with her family when she was 10 years old. In her essay she said: "I love America because here you have freedom, liberty and opportunity. In America you have the choice to be anything you want to be in life..."

The Leesburg Masons presented Kerry-Ann with a check for \$125 on Tuesday evening. The original prize was to be \$100 with an additional award of \$25 to be given to her English teacher. However the teacher, John J. Arnold, said: "Please add my \$25 check to Ms. Gayle's well-earned prize to assist her in the expensive task of continuing her education. Know that you have chosen both a fine young lady and an

earnest young student. She is simply one of the best of the LHS Class of 2009.

Leesburg Masonic Lodge Worshipful Master Richard Ecott made the award presentation to Ms. Gayle in front of her father and about 60 members of the Lodge. Florida Masons are encouraged by their Grand Lodge to participate in programs which support public education, citizenship and patriotism.



## Veterans to Chapel Services

### Tampa Lodge No. 240 along with MSA Escort Veterans to Chapel Services

During the month of April 2009, veterans residing at James A. Haley's VAMC (Veterans Administration Medical Center) nursing home (Haley's Cove) were treated to special attention by one of our Tampa Lodges. Working with the Masonic Service Association (MSA) of North America, Tampa Lodge No. 240 met with nursing home residents to show their support to our nations veterans by continuing their program where Lodge Members escort patients to chapel services. Tampa Lodge No. 240 volunteers logged a total of 42 hours among twelve volunteers which included R.:W.: Bob Alderson, R.:W.: Hugh Jeter, W.: M.: Joe Rose, J.A. Haley Hospital's MSA Representative Randy Ross and others.

These efforts will be credited to the MSA's Hospital Visitation Program which started in 1919. Tampa Lodge No. 240 initiated this show of support to our veterans more than ten years ago and MSA Rep. Ross has encouraged other Lodges to join in. This program is a way for a Master of a local Lodge to leave a great lasting legacy to be proud of for years to come and for his Lodge to be involved in the community. J.A. Haley is the busiest VA Hospital in our nation and treats 5,000 patients daily. There is always a need for Masons to become volunteers and show our support to veterans by working with the MSA's Hospital Visitation Program. To become a volunteer contact MSA Rep. Randy Ross via e-mail at: RRoss1629@yahoo.com. This could be the best job you will ever enjoy.

## Statewide Competition



Right Honorable Aubrey Cross Jr. of The Builder's Masonic Lodge No. 376 of Sarasota won the statewide competition for the Entered Apprentice Degree Lecture with a score of 978. He was awarded a certificate and plaque by the Grand Lodge, which were presented to him at the Lodge meeting on June 16, 2009. The members of the Lodge also honored him with a personalized decorated cake. He is to be congratulated for his outstanding performance.

## What does it mean to Be A Mason? *By Jim Gregory*



Not long ago I was at the Florida Storytelling Camp when one of the featured tellers told the story of her Great, Great Uncle. She and her brother had searched for information about him for a number of years. Their search had covered a number of States. She found his spurs, sword, and some other personal items.

Among these items was his journal. From the journal she discovered that while he was opposed to the War Between the States. He did not think that the Federal Government should have the right to force their ideas on individual States, so when he was offered a commission in the Confederate Army, he accepted and soon became a Major. He was to participate in the defiance of Lookout Mountain in a battle that would come to be referred to as "The Battle Above the Clouds." She said that there was a passage in his journal that she wanted to read in closing the story because it had come to mean so much to her. It was written a short while before he died. He wrote: "We must all remember that we are travelling on that level of time, toward that Undiscovered Country from whose bourne no traveler returnees." She went on to say that this statement let her know that he was ready to accept whatever the next day would bring.

After her speech I went up to her and asked "Would you mind if I tell you something about your Uncle?"

"I would love to know anything that you can tell me." She answered.

I went on, "Your Uncle was probably a Mason," I told her "the line you quoted is one that all Masons learn in one of the Degrees."

"Thank You," she said, "I can't wait to tell my brother, and he will be thrilled to find that out."

About a week later I got an e-mail from this storyteller, "I just wanted to thank you again for your information." She wrote, "I told my brother what you said and he said that helped him to make up his mind, he had often thought that he

would like to look into becoming a Mason and if that is the type of men who were Masons it sounded like something he would like to be a part of."

As I look back on my life before and after joining the Lodge I see that I have changed. Before, I think that for the most part, I was the center of my attention. Now I have to look at my obligations: Church, family, job and I must truly answer the question "What induced me to become a Master Mason?" The answer which all Masons weigh in their hearts; "That I might travel, work, and receive Masters wages the better to enable me to support myself and family and to contribute to the relief of worthy distressed brother Master Masons, their widows, and orphans. For this reason we can be justly proud of the many Masonic Homes, Orphanages, and research programs supported by the Brotherhood. Today I, like many other Masons and non-Masons, wear a life saving Pacemaker / deliberator which was developed through Masonic supported research. So far it has shocked me back to life twice.

I was at a DeMolay Conclave meeting when the news came that a plane had crashed into a house in Orlando, Florida and three children were badly burned. The family had lost everything. The children, who had been at home alone, were taken to a local hospital where they were stabilized. At 6PM that evening a jet (with a big Shrine Logo on the side) was waiting at Orlando International Airport to take the children and their family to the burn center in Saint Louis, MO. The family was provided with all the necessities to stay near their children while they recovered. No child is ever charged at a Masonic Hospital.

A van makes a trip almost every day from Miami to a Children's hospital in Tampa for their treatment. This type of caring is what makes me proud to be a Mason.

Our Masonic Home is more like a five star resort than a hospital. A Brother or his widow can go there when he has nowhere else to go. When a Brother knows that it is time to lay down his working tools and prepare to meet the "Great Architect of the Universe" he knows that there is a place he

can go and be cared for until that final day comes.

Masons are not a secret society, as has been charged, we do have secrets of recognition. We are sworn to help aid and assist any brother who is in need so long as we do not harm ourselves or family in the process. We therefore need to be able to recognize each other even though we may be strangers. Further, Masons do not advertise their good works. We do not help others for personal glory. We believe that other good men will see what we do and say, "He has something that I want in my life."

When Hurricane Andrew hit the Miami area a few years ago, many Masonic Brothers hauled food, water, appliances, gas and other emergency supplies into the South Florida area. For a time, the Masonic Lodge in Homestead was the only place in the area where a person could get a hot meal. Even the military came there for food. As I made 2 to 4 trips a day pulling trailer loads of supplies into the area, I put the Masonic Emblem in the front window of my van and I was never stopped at a military roadblock.

We were sometimes the first aid to reach certain areas. One week after the storm I followed a dirt road into a farm area looking for someone who might need help. My van and trailer was loaded with supplies. I found a migrant labor camp and the leader told me that I was the first person to bring any aid to them. My daughters were with me helping to pass out sacks of food and water. The people lined up in an orderly fashion and gratefully accepted what we had to offer. I made three more trips to the camp and they directed me to some other places where people needed help. The media never picked up on what we were doing even though a number of their people came to the Homestead Lodge to eat.

So the question remains, "What does it mean to be a Mason?" I guess it means much the same thing that it means to be a Christian or any other follower of a major religion. We do the best we can to help others where ever and whenever we can.

## Three Brothers Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason



On June 20, 2009, High Twelve Lodge No. 317 Raised three Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. How wonderful and inspiring it was to have several officers of the M.:W.: Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida assist in the second section.

R.:W.: J. Dick Martinez, D.G.M. sat in the East, M.:W.: Elmer Coffman sat as SD, and R.:W.: Danny Griffith was No. 12 FC. Also assisting in the second section was R.:W.: Jim Harris, S.G.W., R.:W.: Jorge Aladro, J.:G.:W.:, and R.:W.: Stan Hudson was No. 2 Ruffian.

Brothers representing no less than eleven (11) Lodges, within the Grand Lodge of Florida, had a part in this most memorable Degree making this truly a day to remember for the Brothers of High Twelve Lodge No. 317, Lutz, FL. How proud we are!

R.:W.: Gil Weisman Treas.

*left to right: R.:W.: Houston White J.:W.:, R.:W.: Danny Griffith, R.:W.: Gil Weisman, Treas., Bro. Al Alberti (Candidate), M.:W.: Elmer Coffman, Bro. Jeff Schmalenburg (Candidate), R.:W.: Jim Harris, Bro. Mike Russell (Candidate), R.:W.: J. Dick Martinez, R.:W.: Jorge Aladro, Bro. Stan Rakita SD, W.:M.: John Warren, Bro. Rob Helms Chap.*

## Sirius Sunshine Lodge No. 402

Sirius Sunshine Lodge No. 402, at the Stated Communication on June 9th 2009, A.D. 6009 A.L. Presented Honorary Memberships, Certificates and Pins for 25 and 50 years.

- ❖ Honorary Memberships presented by M.:W.: Elmer Coffman, P.G.M. and Grand Treasurer, & W.:M.: Conrad Chalick to the following:
  - ⇒ M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, Grand Secretary P.G.M. State of Florida
  - ⇒ R.:W.: William Broughton, P.D.D.G.M. of the 16th Masonic District
  - ⇒ R.:W.: Steve Boring P.D.D.G.M. of the 16th Masonic District was presented his Honorary Membership from Sirius Sunshine Lodge No. 402 at Saint Johns Lodge No. 37 on 6/23/2009.

❖ Certificates and Pins presented to:

- ⇒ Bro. Henry Joseph Slager 50 year Certificate and Pin  
Brother Slager is a 50 year Florida Mason Mother Lodge; Hialeah-Opa Lacka Lodge No. 391, Hialeah FL
- ⇒ W.: William James Rodgers, Junior Warden Sirius Sunshine Lodge No. 402, 25 year Certificate and Pin

Fraternally,  
Secretary, Richard M. Falbo



*l to r: W.:M.: Chalick and M.:W.: Elmer Coffman, Presenting Honorary Membership to (center) M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M., Grand Secretary*



*(right) M.:W.: Elmer Coffman presenting 50 year Certificate to Bro. Henry Joseph Slager.*



*l to r: W.:M.: Chalick and M.:W.: Elmer Coffman Presenting Honorary Membership to P.D.D.G.M. William Broughton of the 16th Masonic District*



*(right) M.:W.: Elmer Coffman Presenting 25 year Certificate to W.: William J Rodgers.*

## Bellevue Lodge No. 95 held its fifth annual Child ID

Bellevue Lodge No. 95 held its fifth annual Child ID program at the Lodge. Over 700 people attended the event and 220 children were IDed. Free hot dogs, milk, soda, ice cream, water and snacks were provided by the Lodge and its sponsors. Fingerprinting service was provided by the Marion County Sheriff's office and DNA samples by health personal. Shrine clowns and local fire department personnel with their vehicles entertained the children.

The children had a great time and parents were very pleased and grateful to receive this free and important service.

As with all Lodges it has been Bellevue Lodge's goal to utilize this Grand Lodge program to safeguard children in the community. It has also been of prime importance to hold this event at the Lodge to make Masonry less mysterious and improve its visibility in the community. To that end, three radio stations and two local newspapers publicized the event and the Marion County School System distributed four thousand flyers informing parents of this free program.

For the last 3 years Bellevue Lodge has ID 558 children at their Lodge Building. Of special note was T.G. Lee Dairy providing its donation van and donating products and Sweetbay, Publix, Frito Lay, Culligan and other sponsors donating products.

The W.: M.: Ted Mullins and the members of Bellevue Lodge did an outstanding job and deserve special credit for their efforts.



## Award Night at Hillsborough Lodge No. 25

Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 F. & A. M. established in 1850, and the largest Member wise Lodge in the Grand Lodge of Florida; held an Awards and Family night on June 30, 2009. The first award was the Vivian Gaither Outstanding Educator Award. This award is named in honor of the Worshipful Master of 1940. W.: Gaither was the Principal of Hillsborough High School for over 40 years, as well as Principal of Plant High School in Tampa. This Award consists of a cash award of \$500.00, to be used by the Educator in her duties, a personal plaque, a certificate of the Award, and the person's name placed on a permanent Plaque at the Lodge. This is the ninth consecutive year this award has been presented by Hillsborough Lodge No. 25 F. & A. M. Mrs. Letha Maxey of Hillsborough High School was this year's recipient. The next Award was Hillsborough Lodge's ninth annual Joseph A. Moore Scholarship Award to a worthy student, to assist in furthering the student's college education. W.: Moore was the first Worshipful Master of Hillsborough Lodge serving from 1850 to 1853. The Award consists of a Scholarship of \$500.00, a personal plaque, a certificate of the award, and the student's name placed on a permanent plaque at the Lodge. The student may qualify for an additional \$500.00 Scholarship amount, if he or she maintains a 3.0 grade average in their first semester. The recipient this year was Mr. Stephen Solorzano of Hillsborough High School. Mr. Solorzano will be attending the University of Florida.

## "Bears for Bears"

R.:W.: Dencel R Smith, Worshipful Master of Havana Lodge No. 167, F. & A.M., Havana, FL, presents to Havana Police Officers Pye and Alexander just a few of the many teddy bears collected by the Lodge members for the "Bears for Bears" program. This is the second year Havana Lodge No. 167 has collected and donated the bears which are used to help give comfort to children during trying times.

R.:W.: Smith said that it is just a small token of our appreciation for the Havana Police Dept. and a way to help support the community.



## A Step Into The Future

By Brother Larry Duff, Jr. Deacon & TB Editor,  
Leesburg Lodge No. 58

At the June, 16th Stated Communication Meeting of Leesburg Lodge No. 58 the Brethren took a bold step towards the financial security of both our Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Florida.

The Brethren voted unanimously to acquire "Memorial Perpetual Memberships" for 64 deceased Past Masters at a cost of \$200.00 each or \$12,800.00. This is an investment in the future of our Lodge as the Grand Lodge returned 5% in 2008, of which Leesburg Lodge received 4.621% and the Grand Lodge of Florida .379% on each dollar inputted into the fund.

The investment return is annually for as long as Leesburg Lodge continues to exist and Perpetual Memberships are authorized by the Lodge as approved by the Grand Lodge of Florida. It is the belief of the Brethren of Leesburg Lodge No. 58 that this is an investment in our Lodges financial future and that of the Grand Lodge of Florida now and long after we have been received into the welcoming arms of the Grand Architect of the Universe into that Celestial Lodge above. In taking this action, the Brethren of Leesburg Lodge No. 58 also honor and celebrate those who have served our Fraternity since the Lodge's Charter was issued 141 years ago on January 15th, 1868.

## Outstanding Citizens of the Community

Saturday, October 17th, the Lake Wales Masonic Lodge No. 242 held an Awards dinner and presented awards in honor for the outstanding citizens of the community.



## Imperial Potentate Shriners International Imperial Divan 2009-2010



Jack H. Jones

During the 2009 Imperial Council Session, held in San Antonio July 5-9, Jack H. Jones of St. Petersburg, Fla., was elected the Imperial Potentate of Shriners International, making him the highest-ranking Shriner in the world. In this role, he serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners International and Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Jones served on the Elected Divan of Egypt Shriners in Tampa, Fla., prior to being elected Imperial Recorder in 1979. As Imperial Recorder, he served on the Board of Directors for the Fraternity as well as Shriners Hospitals for Children; his responsibilities included serving as a liaison to Masonic-related groups. He has served in this role for the past 30 years, prior to being elected Imperial Potentate. Jones has worked as Director of Membership Development and Masonic Relations at Shriners International Headquarters in Tampa, Fla., since 1981.

Jones is a recipient of several Grand Lodge awards: the Benjamin Franklin Medal from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; the Henry Price Medal from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the Andrew Jackson Medal from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

His Masonic affiliations include Egypt Shriners, Hillsborough Lodge No. 25, F. & A.M., Tampa York Rite, Tampa Scottish Rite, Red Cross of Constantine, Order of Quetzalcoatl and National Sojourners. He is a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, Inspector General Honorary and a recipient of the DeMolay Honorary Legion of Honor. He is an Emeritus Member of the DeMolay International Supreme Council and a recipient of the DeMolay Grand Cross. In 2006, he was presented the Imperial Potentate's Award of Merit, which is the highest honor in the Shriners Fraternity. He was elected Honorary Grand Master of DeMolay International in 2009.

## New Lodge Receives Special Plaque

Lewis A. Armistead Lodge No. 403 of Jacksonville was presented with a special plaque by its Worshipful Master and Officers on April 17th of this year. Armistead Lodge No. 403 is a daylight Lodge, and was just instituted in 2008.

The large, handsome plaque with the engraved name, Lewis A. Armistead Lodge No. 403, was presented and placed over the doorway to the Lodge room at the Scottish Rite Center in Jacksonville.

Present at the meeting for the presentation was R.:W.: Seth L. Rothstein, D.D.G.M. of the 11th Masonic District. Pictured here were the officers and R.:W.: Seth Rothstein with the plaque and a photograph of General Lewis A. Armistead, for whom the Lodge was named.



First row were l to r: Samuel D. Hope, S.:W.:; R.:W.: Seth L. Rothstein, then D.D.G.M., 11th District, holding the photograph; Lewis E. Duffy, W.:M.: of Armistead Lodge No. 403, holding the plaque; R.:W.:H. Wiley Hart, 33°, now D.D.G.M., J.D.; Richard I. Lanier, 33°, P.M.E.G.H.P., Chaplain; and Charles Robert Cooper, P.M., Secretary.

Second row were l to r: Michael Pete Trent, P.M., J.:W.:; Clayton Vandiver, S.D.; R.:W.: Lowell D. Crane, 33°, P.M., P.D.D.G.M., Treasurer; Robert J. Ferguson, Tyler; and Jimmy A. Dorsey, Member.

Back row were l to r: Michael L. Enge, P.M., S.S.; and Loren Lee, P.M., J.S. It was a special day.

## Electronically-Challenged Seniors

Things are spiraling out of control. I think I have become lost in a world of electronic madness.

One of my sons informed me this week that my cell phone has become obsolete and I must head down to the cell phone store and get a phone that is contemporary with the time.

I pointed out that the fancy razor/slimline phone with camera built in that he made me trade my perfectly good flip-top Motorola cell phone for two years ago still works perfectly fine. Well, except for the camera thing. Never could figure that out. Even the few times I actually did take pictures I couldn't figure out what to do with them and gave up.

That is except when I would push the wrong button and take a video of the ceiling or my feet.

Seems the issue is that I am unable to text with the tiny little 3 character buttons. "Hi, son," would come out looking like, "Gh Qmo." My grandkids have even spoken to my wife about Poppa's crazy text messages. Give me a break. Whatever happened to actually talking on a phone? Isn't that what they were invented for?

They want me to get one of those phones that you can turn upside down and sideways and has a typewriter keyboard with keys about one-eighth the size of my pinky finger.

One of my four sons is a realtor whose real occupation is fly fishing. "Way to go, son." Or in my text language, "Xbz um lo, rmo."

We were floating the Yakima River in his guide-quality drift boat south of Ellensburg, Washington. We were miles from anything remotely resembling civilization. Rock canyon walls were on either side of us. Bear with me as I try to explain this strange thing.

His "Blackberry" rang. It was blue and I asked him why it wasn't called a blueberry. He shook his head with that "dealing with an elder" despair look I get a lot these

days. It was another realtor who called to say that the sellers he represented had agreed to my son's client's changes and he had the signed documents in hand.

My son told him to FAX the papers to his office and he would get them signed and faxed back to close the deal that morning. A minute later the phone rang and he hit a few buttons and looked over the FAX, now on the Yakima River with us.

He then called his clients and told them he was faxing the papers to them to sign and asked them to FAX them back to his office. While he was waiting, he hooked into a fat rainbow and was just releasing this 22-inch beauty as his phone rang again with the signed FAX from his clients.

He called the other realtor and told him he was sending the signed papers back by FAX. The deal was closed. He smiled and just said, "You are a little behind the times, Dad." I guess I am.

I thought about the sixty million dollar a year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a Blackberry that played music, took videos, pictures and communicated with Facebook and Twitter.

I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, 13 grandkids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

That was before one of my grandkids hooked me up for Tweeter, Tweetree, Twirl, Twitterfon, Tweetie and Twitterific Tweetdeck, Twitpix and something that sends every message to my cell phone and every other program within the texting world.

My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because

they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Bluetooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Nobles talking to my wife as everyone in the nearest 50 yards was glaring at me. Seems I have to take my hearing aid out to use it and got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-ul-ating." You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then when I would make a right turn instead, it was not good.

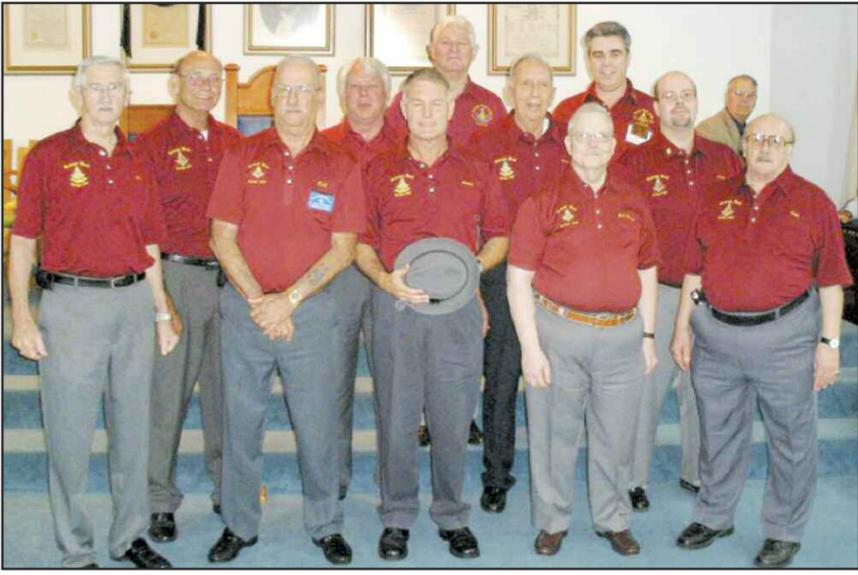
When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I can lose three phones all at once and have to run around digging under chair cushions and checking bathrooms and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "paper or plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop.

I bought some of those cloth re-usable bags to avoid looking confused but never remember to take them in with me.

Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "paper or plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sack-sual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look.



## State Ritual Team Competition

Congratulations to the 2009 Orange Park Lodge No. 267 Ritual Competition Team Second Place at State Ritual Competition held at Winter Park Lodge 24 May 2009 in Conjunction with the 180th Annual Grand Communication Grand Lodge of Florida

Line Up for the Second Part of the Fellow Craft DEGREE:

W.: Dennis Smith	W.: M.:
Bro. Corey Kosciusko	S.: W.:
W.: Lew Smith	JW
W.: Randy Rogers	CH
R.: W.: Rudy Boatright	SD
Bro. Tom Olsen	JD
W.: Carl Yochelson	SS
W.: Wayne Williams	JS
Bro. Tony Cerra	TY
Bro. Harme Bonner	CA
R.: W.: Pat Farrell	Tie Breaker

Team Members (not pictured)

Bro. Phil Potts  
 Bro. Richard Adams  
 Bro. Richard Bilyard  
 Bro. Richard Bilyard II  
 Bro. Lewis Smith

Team scores (out of possible 1000) in order of competition were:

1. 805
2. 975 Orange Park Lodge
3. 995 District Team (Dist 1)
4. 855

A well done to all members of the Orange Park Team. Thank you for your contribution in furthering excellence in Degree work at Orange Park Lodge.

Your many hours of practice and sincere devotion to duty is greatly appreciated.



## 65 Year Certificate

Brother George Moran of The Builder's Lodge No. 376 Free & Accepted Masons of Sarasota, who has been the Chaplain of the Lodge for the past 10 years, was awarded a 65-year certificate and pin from the Grand Lodge of Florida on April 12, 2009. Brother Moran also has dual affiliation with the Wadsworth Lodge 417 of New York and received a 65-year certificate and pin from the Grand Lodge of New York on May 19, 2009.



## 50 Year Membership Award

Brother Ruben Cofer, a Member of LaFayette Lodge No. 23 in Georgia, was presented his Fifty Year Membership Award in Orange Park Lodge No. 267. Brother Cofer was presented a Fifty Year Pin, a Fifty Year Certificate and a beautiful Fifty Year Apron. M.: W.: Elmer Coffman made the presentation on behalf of LaFayette Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Georgia and R.: W.: Bill Walker served as Senior Deacon.

## Most Worshipful Grand Master presents 60 year pin at District 5 & 6 visit

August 22nd was full of fun, fellowship and honors for members of the 5th and 6th Masonic Districts. Our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Dale I. Goehrig, paid his official visit to the districts held at the Shaddai Shrine Center in Panama City. Fellowship began at 5:00 p.m. with supper following at 6:00 p.m.

Our Grand Master received many honors during his visits to the 5th and 6th Districts. The one that stood out among all received was that he presented a 60 year pin of membership to Brother Elgin Emerson Sizemore of Apalachicola Lodge No. 76 F. & A. M. in Apalachicola, Florida.

Brother Sizemore was born in 1924 and received all Three Degrees at Apalachicola Lodge No. 76 F. & A. M. He was Initiated an Entered Apprentice on November 2, 1948, Passed to a Fellow Craft on April 12, 1949 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on June 17, 1949.

During his many faithful years of service to the Fraternity he has watched and helped Masonry grow from his Lodge on the banks of the Apalachicola River to Pythagoras Lodge, near the banks of the Choctawhatchee River, 11 Lodges in all. Listening to Brother Sizemore is like listening to a walking chapter from Florida's Masonic history. The list of the Brothers he knows across this State is as many as the grains of sand on the Gulf of Mexico. It starts with Brothers as well known as Most Worshipful G. Rodman Porter PGM, to the newest Raised Brother at Apalachicola Lodge, Brother Albert London. Brother Sizemore is a simple and direct speaking Brother. When asked to say something after receiving his 60 year pin from our Most Worshipful Grand Master, he simply replied, "Thank you and God Bless you all." He was conducted back to his seat by the Worshipful Master of his Lodge, Worshipful Charlie W. "Billy" Moses.

Congratulations Brother Sizemore. We are looking forward to being present when you are awarded your 70 year pin.



## Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge No. 291's 8th Annual Charity Golf Tournament



Golfers get ready to begin tournament



Brother Shawn Rae enjoying Pig Roast

Members of Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge No. 291 recently took part in the 8th Annual Suncoast Masters and Wardens Association Charity Golf Tournament held in Dunedin. Brothers, family and friends competed for cash and prizes totaling more than a \$1,000,000. The team led by Brother Bob Matheson, from Dunedin Masonic Lodge No. 192, took first place. Following the tournament, everyone enjoyed a real old fashioned pig roast, prepared by Brother Tom Willmot, Senior Warden of Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291.

The proceeds from the tournament go toward the William S. O'Brien Memorial Scholarship which is designed to assist a deserving student each year with a scholarship to a College or University. Late Brother O'Brien, for whom the scholarship is named, was an advocate for assisting students in meeting the cost of higher education.

For further information about Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge, or to see more pictures of the tournament, please visit [www.gulfbeachlodge.org](http://www.gulfbeachlodge.org).

## National Sojourners President Presents Award To Richard Wyatt

At the Heroes of '76 Florida Area Encampment in Jacksonville, Florida on August 22, 2009, 1st LT. Frederick B. Vihovde, Sojourners National President, presented a Presidential Citation award to LTC Richard W. Wyatt, Sojourners National Senior Lieutenant and Area Representative for Florida.

Shown here, 1st LT Frederick Vihovde, National President, left, presents the framed citation to LTC Richard Wyatt, Sojourners National Senior Lieutenant and Florida Area Representative.



*Messages continued from page 2*

**R. W. Jim J Harris**  
Senior Grand Warden

### ***A Message From The Senior Grand Warden***

My Brothers:

Hopefully this message finds you well and rested after a summer of fun. Since the Grand Lodge Communication in May, the Grand Lodge Officers have attended many of the Grand Master's Official Visits around the State. In those meetings we discussed items concerning the Fraternity, such as, updating the Masonic Education Booklets. This project is very near completion. We also stressed the importance and effect of using the Mentoring System of education by Lodges throughout the State.

The Masonic Home is working hard to roll out an outreach program which should be ready in February. This Program will help Brothers throughout the State with questions concerning programs that are offered either by the Masonic Home or by local, county or state care-givers.

We have also reiterated the importance of keeping our obligation to our deceased Brothers by taking care of our beloved Widows. We recommend that every Worshipful Master of each Lodge create a committee to locate and stay in touch with our Widows. Plan a Widows' Night early in the year. This gives the Widows an opportunity to meet the new Worshipful Master. As part of the committee, have a contact person for each Widow. Invite the Widows to each open Lodge function as the Worshipful Master's guests, not charging them for any event or function. In short, make the Widows part of our Masonic Family.

There were discussions about the importance of being involved and visible in our community. This is another way to attract new members and let the community know who we are and what we do. The following are some of the activities suggested:

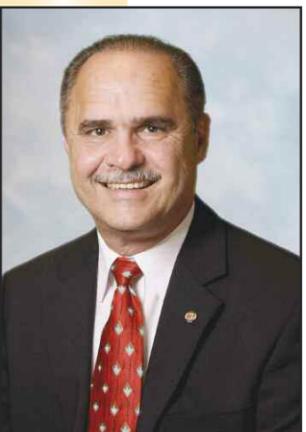
- Masonic Cornerstone Ceremonies (these usually take place at schools, libraries, police stations or almost any public building). The Lodge Brothers should remain vigilant for any new construction and then get in touch with the proper authorities, requesting permission to perform the Cornerstone Ceremony. Be prepared to present a history of the Cornerstone Ceremony, and tell how it has been performed in this country since the mid-1700's.
- Recognize a teacher, a police officer, a fireman or a community leader. Present these leaders with plaques at the Lodge and invite the public to attend.
- Adopt a highway. This project provides "permanent" signs with your Lodge name and number along the road right-of-way your Lodge maintains.
- Sponsor a little league or tee-ball team, being sure to include the square and compass on the uniforms.
- Offer your Lodge to community organizations such as the Brownies, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, just to name a few.
- Sponsor a Food Drive – collect and distribute food at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Coordinate with a local social services agency. Consider a church as a partner.
- Maintain your Lodge. Its appearance has a direct connection with how we are viewed by the community. An attractive Lodge helps catch the attention of potential members. Brothers, our membership numbers are in constant decline. We need to take any and all steps necessary to prevent or slow down this loss of members. We are the Masons left with that task. Each Brother should make every effort to introduce Masonry to a friend or relative who would be a great addition to our family.

Another way to ensure Masonry will be here in the future is to invest in your LODGE by purchasing a Perpetual Membership. This will help your Lodge long after we are gone. You are never too old to purchase a Perpetual Membership to HELP your Lodge.

Brothers, I know it is hard to reach everyone and answer every question, but if you want to discuss anything regarding increasing our membership please contact me at 772-388-5477.

Thank you listening and allowing me to serve the Craft.

Fraternally and sincerely,  
Jim J Harris  
Senior Grand Warden



**R. W. J. L. "George" Aladro**  
Junior Grand Warden

### ***A Message From The Junior Grand Warden***

My Brothers,

Thus far, it has been an absolute thrill working with the Grand Lodge Officers. We are almost half way into our Grand Lodge year and have accomplished many things in several fronts. We have a new website for the Masonic Home, which is [www.masonichomeofflorida.org](http://www.masonichomeofflorida.org). Please visit this site as it has much new information on it, with more to come. It will be well worth your time.

Masonic Education is a continuing undertaking to bring up to date and soon you will have all Master Mason Exams I, II & III available and updated on the Grand Lodge website. In addition, we have updated much of the "Lodge System of Masonic Education" and that too will be available before the year is out. We are looking forward to presenting a new Masonic Leadership Training program down the road, which will be designed with all Master Masons in mind to improve our knowledge in Florida Masonry.

We are also looking forward to the time when we travel once again around the State in an open forum type of town hall meeting, to hear from the Craft about each of your concerns, and how we can better assist you as a Brother, Lodge or District.

My friends and Brothers in all that is being done, there is one main ingredient to the success of all programs we have available from Grand Lodge and that is YOU the individual Brother. Yes, YOU my Brother. Without YOU nothing would be worth doing, nothing would get accomplished, nothing would change, status quo will still plague our Fraternity and we, all of us from the youngest Entered Apprentice to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, would have failed in leaving this Fraternity unimpaired to our posterity.

Our Fraternity is made up of VOLUNTEERS, and as such we ALL need to step up to the plate and take on a greater roll, become more responsible, take to heart our Obligations we took upon our knees at our Sacred Altar, to help our fellow Brethren and Humanity as a whole. My Brothers this is not just directed to the Officers of our Lodges and the Brothers that attend Lodge on a regular basis; although it certainly applies to them. It is also for those Brothers we have not seen in our midst for some time. Although you might think you have not been missed, I can assure you that you have. This is too big a task for just a few. We NEED YOU, MY BROTHER. Come on down to the Lodge, contact a Lodge Officer or an old friend and Brother. They will be glad to see YOU.

We are looking for Brothers in the following fields to assist in many of the undertakings we are about to embark on: Sales Management, CPA/Accountants, Marketing, Advertising, Merchant Services Representative, Emergency Personnel, Risk Management, Educators, Training Instructors, Doctors, Nurses, Time Management, Computer Program Trainers, Event Organizers, Public Relations, Attorneys, Estate Planners, Engineers, Contractors and Sub-Contractors, whether active or retired in any of these fields. If you would like to share your expertise please drop an email to Grand Lodge at [volunteers@floridamasons.org](mailto:volunteers@floridamasons.org). Remember team building is what we are trying to accomplish for the betterment of our entire Fraternity.

In closing my Brothers, as your servant, I am here to help and assist every one of you. Please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to the time when I can visit your area and have the pleasure of shaking your hand in the spirit of True Brotherhood.

May God shower you and your loved ones with his many Blessings and Mercy 'til we meet again.  
Fraternally,  
J. L. "George" Aladro  
Junior Grand Warden



*M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, PGM  
Grand Secretary*

### ***A Message From The Grand Secretary***

#### ***What would you say to welcome a man?***

In the Masonic Lodge we practice those principles handed down from our forefathers that make our country great. In Masonic Lodges, all men are equal, regardless of income, race, or religion. There are over 13,000 Lodges in the U.S. Most small towns may only have one, and large cities usually have several. You can travel almost any place in the world and find the warm hand of brotherhood extended to you. Find a Lodge close to you by going to this page on the Grand Lodge web site: <http://www.gflmason.org/lodgelocator/5search.php>

#### ***When asked who are we?***

Masons are moral, honest men who work together to improve themselves and their communities. Our motto is "Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love." In addition many charities benefit from our Masonic endeavors, <http://www.gflmason.org/grandlodge/join.html>

#### ***What We Do For Others***

Our main focus is on community service. We organize blood drives, volunteer at local schools, and run the Child Identification Program that reaches thousands of children each year. We support the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory in Utica, NY. <http://www.mmrl.edu/>

#### ***History***

Masonry is the oldest Fraternity in the world, although no one can claim to know its exact origins. There is evidence that the Masonry we know today probably grew out of the guilds of stonemasons who built the castles and cathedrals of the Middle Ages. In the U.S., many of the Founding Fathers were Masons, including Benjamin Franklin and George Washington. From presidents, astronauts, and sports heroes to carpenters, CEOs, and bus drivers, millions of Masons have made our country what it is today. As Masons, history, tradition, and pride are central concepts in our lives. The list of successful Florida Masons is too long to list, however, includes Governors, Senators, Astronauts, Police Chiefs, and successful business men.

#### ***Grand Lodge Building*** (Jacksonville)

You are welcomed to schedule a tour of Florida Grand Lodge Building, Masonic Museum, Located at 220 N Ocean Street in Downtown Jacksonville. You can also conduct a virtual tour of our Museum: <http://gflam.smugmug.com/photos/swfpopup.mg?AlbumID=4989284&AlbumKey=bUbVz>

The staff and I are ready to assist you with any request that will make your Masonic experiences better. For a list and job descriptions of the Grand Lodge staff go to: <http://www.gflmason.org/grandsec/personnel.html>

Sincerely and fraternally,

Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M.  
Grand Secretary



*M.:W.: Elmer G. Coffman,  
PGM Grand Treasurer*

### ***A Message From The Grand Treasurer***

Brethren,

These are some busy times for the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers as we make our way to each of the areas for the District Meetings. What a great time it is to be able to see many of our friends and Brothers across the State and enjoy the fellowship that we as Masons are famous for. One of the greatest benefits we enjoy as Masons is the wonderful friends we make, and those friendships last a lifetime.

The year is rapidly coming to a close in our Particular Lodges and once again many of our Brothers will be facing suspension from non-payment of dues. Please remember these are our Brothers and some may have fallen on hard times due to the economy. It is our responsibility as Masons to contact these Brothers and determine if there is anything that we or our Lodges can do to help, aid and assist them in their time of need. Last year we lost a tremendous amount of members due to N.P.D., let's do our best not to let that happen again and make an attempt to recover the ones we lost as well. To assist with this, our Grand Master has once again this year continued the Amnesty Program which allows a Brother who has been suspended for non-payment of dues to be reinstated by paying only the current years dues. He must of course, submit a Petition for Reinstatement, which will follow the normal course of action.

The new holiday season is almost upon us and that means that our lives will become busier than ever. But please don't let that interfere with your Lodge and set aside time to attend. Your Brothers need you, your Lodge needs you and Masonry in general needs you. If you haven't attended in awhile, you will be surprised how much you will enjoy going back and seeing your Brothers and friends and becoming part of the fellowship again.

If you happen to be in the Jacksonville area, please stop by Grand Lodge for a visit and if you would like a tour of the Grand Lodge Building and Museum, it would be our pleasure to provide that for you.

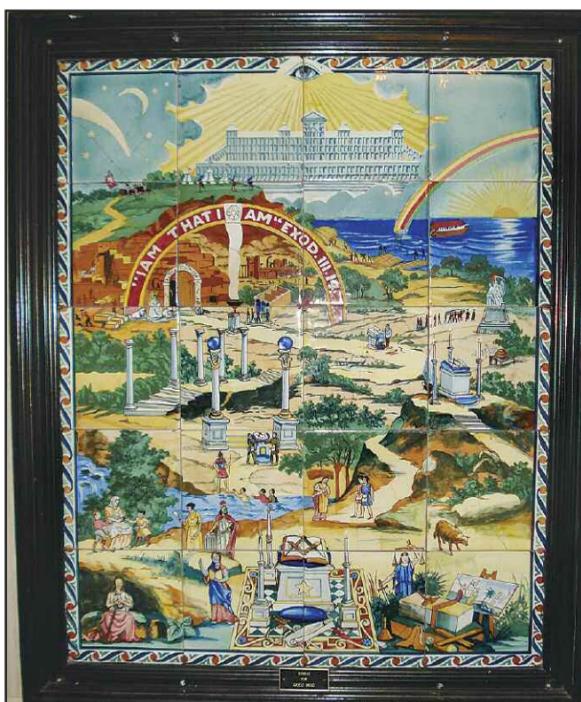
Have a great holiday season and may God richly bless each and every one of you.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M.  
Grand Treasurer

### **Picture Work of Art**

This picture was crafted by Brother Angelo Greco, a Member of La Espanola Lodge No. 178 in 1910 who was a master tile maker and settler here in Tampa, and also related to one of Tampa's most popular Mayors, Richard "Dick" Greco. The tile work is all hand painted and baked. This picture was donated to Universal Lodge No. 178 when it was chartered in 1911. It is currently displayed in the lobby of John Darling Lodge No. 154 and it is a beautiful work of Masonic Art.



## The Danial Carter Beard Award

South Miami Lodge had an open part of our Stated Meeting on May 12th for the purpose of presenting Brother William Lee Popham with The Daniel Carter Beard Award.

We were graced by the presence of M.:W.: Joe Fleites, then Grand Master of Masons of Florida, and honored by the surprise visit of W.:M.: and Brethren of Hibiscus Lodge.

Brother Popham was nominated by Brother William Sharp of Endeavor Lodge of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware for this award, who flew in that night just to attend the presentation. Just to furnish sufficient proof of "how good and pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity" a Florida Mason nominated by a Delaware Brother for a Masonic award from The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award is an honor due to the countless Freemasons who practice the ideals of Freemasonry and act as role models to the young men who are part of one of our nation's most outstanding youth organizations. The Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Award not only supports the Masonic relationship through the man who brought Scouting to America, but proclaims the integrity of the Freemason who is honored by receiving the award.

Freemasonry's relationship with the Boy Scouts started with a Freemason named Daniel Carter Beard. Bro. Beard was made a Mason in Mariner's Lodge No. 67, New York City, NY, and later affiliated with Cornucopia Lodge No. 563, Flushing, NY. In the late 1800's he founded a male youth program called the "Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone." By 1905, the program had become "The Boy Pioneers." The man who would create the first "Boy



Scouts," and be known as its founder, was Lord Robert Baden-Powell of Great Britain. Lord Baden-Powell, who was not a Mason, read of Beard's program and, based on his own military experience, developed what is known as the "Boy Scouts." In 1910, the Boy Scout program came to America when Bro. Beard merged his organization into the "Boy Scouts of America" and became its first National Commissioner.

Bro. Beard, known affectionately as "Uncle Dan" by millions of Boy Scouts, worked tirelessly to create the Scouting Program that we know today. He developed the elements of the Scout badge and the Scout uniform, and wrote and illustrated various early publications of the Boy Scouts of America. Bro. Beard exemplified the Masonic ideals throughout the Scouting program.

## Masonic Association Donates to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

The 11th and 12th Districts Masonic Association on Florida's First Coast, at their regular meeting on August 26, 2009, contributed \$5,394.00 to the Juve-

nile Diabetes Research Foundation, their main charity. The 2009 Chairman for the 11th and 12th Districts Association, Alan McKinney, at that time, presented a check from the Masonic Association for \$5,000.00 to Ms. Leslie Burkhalter, Government Relations State Activation Leader for the JDRF in Florida.

Ms. Burkhalter had brought with her several children, who have Juvenile Diabetes, accompanied by their parents, and gave a presentation of the history, physical effects, scientific advances and plans for combating and reducing Juvenile Diabetes. The children also shared their experiences and thoughts with the Brothers present. Following the presentation, charitable collections from those Masons present added another approximately \$394.00 to the JDRF contributions, making the total 2009 donation approximately \$5,394.00

Ms. Leslie Burkhalter presented an appreciation plaque to Association Chairman Alan McKinney, and the children brought forward posters thanking the 11th and 12th Districts Association for its help and support through the years.

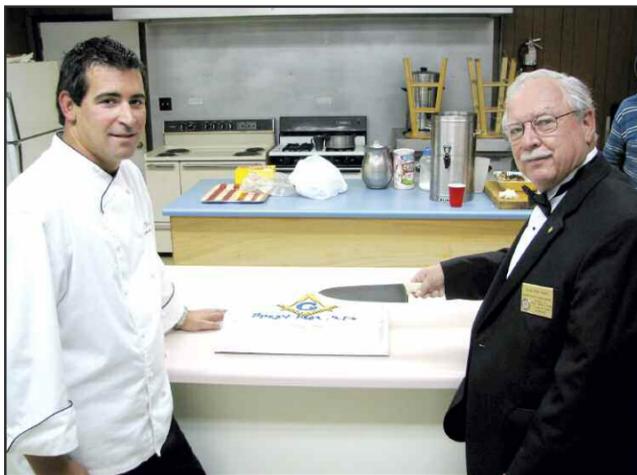
Pictured here, were the children and parents present with Ms. Leslie Burkhalter, representing the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation; and the 11th & 12th Districts Masonic Association Chairman Alan McKinney. The children are holding up their JDRF Thank You posters. Ms. Leslie Burkhalter and Alan McKinney are holding the enlarged representation of the 11th & 12th Districts Masonic Association check to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The dinner and meeting were held at Stafford Caldwell Lodge No. 342, F. & A.M., and a large turnout enjoyed a very fine evening.



## Three Generations of Family Members



On May 18th Ferry Pass Lodge No. 348 in Pensacola, W.:M.: Dale Barnes presented four Membership Certificates to three generations of family members, all who are members of Ferry Pass. The eldest, Brother, Malcom Garrett recently celebrated his 93rd birthday and will be a 67 year Mason in November. He was Raised on November 28, 1942. Standing with him is his son-in-law, Russell Goolsby, and his sons, Mark and Keith who is the Lodge Senior Steward.



The D.D.G.M. for The Second Masonic District of Florida, R.:W.: Ronald L. Parks and who is a Honorary Member of Ferry Pass Lodge prepares to cut the dinner cake during his official visit to Ferry Pass Lodge No. 348 in Pensacola on Labor Day, September 7th. The cake was prepared by Brother Keith Hoffert, shown standing with R.:W.: Parks. Brother Hoffert is a Member of the Lodge and the head chef of the West Florida Hospital in Pensacola. The Craft prepared a great meal of smoked Boston pork butt and bar-b-que for the DD and his Committee and enjoyed the refreshment and fellowship before the Stated Session began.

## 11th & 12th District's Masonic Child ID Program at Lodge

An 11th & 12th Districts Masonic Child Identification Program was conducted at William B. Barnett Lodge No. 187 on Saturday, July 25, 2009, in conjunction with a rummage sale. Masonic Brothers from several different Lodges in the 11th and 12th Districts assisted the team that put on the program.

Shown in the first picture (1) were several brothers working on different facets of the Child ID Program. Shown, from left to right, in the picture with the computers and cameras were: Jason Shuman of Arlington Lodge No. 309; R.:W.: Alan McQuaig of Hyde Park Lodge No. 370, P.D.D.G.M., Dist. 11, Child ID Chairman, Zone 3; "Hoss" Williams; Darrell Boone, Hyde Park Lodge No. 370, Child ID Dist. Committeeman, District 12; and Mel Abando of William B. Barnett Lodge No. 187 F. & A.M.

Seen, from left to right (2), along with the children and their new complimentary bicycle helmets in the second picture were Brothers: Mel Abando and Christopher Glass of Wm. B. Barnett Lodge No. 187; and Randy Nichols of Callahan Lodge No. 32.

Shown in the third picture (3) with a father and his son, who had just received a free bicycle helmet, was Brother Randy Nichols of Callahan Lodge No. 32, who secures the helmets, donated by the Department of Transportation, and brings them to the Child ID Program sites for the children.

The fourth picture (4) shows John "Hoss" Williams taking pictures of the children so they can be given to parents, along

with fingerprints, to be saved and used for identification in a case of lost or "missing" children.

In the fifth picture (5), a young boy is coached to look toward his father, so the photographer can take a profile picture of him.

The sixth picture (6) shows the little boy being fingerprinted so the parents will have a record of his fingerprints.

In the seventh picture (7) a young woman registers with the Child ID team, signing a waiver to let her child be photographed and fingerprinted. Brother Buddy Williams of Hyde Park Lodge No. 370 assists in explaining and answering her questions.

In the last photo (8), Brother Antonio (Tony) Chavez, 11th District Child ID Program Committeeman, is seen drawing a complimentary caricature for a young woman at the Child ID Program.

The Brothers felt they conducted a very successful and enjoyable Masonic Child ID Program. They conducted the program from about 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., and created child identification materials for thirty children.



## Johnnie B. Byrd, Sr. Alzheimer's Center & Research Institute

Tampa, FL. September 2, 2009

On the campus of University of South Florida (USF) is a new center that evaluates and cares for people with memory disorders.

The evening was delightful, exciting, enlightening and encouraging. There were well over 200 people in attendance, which included, doctors, supporters, families and friends. Highlights include the new advances on this disease and on the new discoveries with research and development.

The other was a presentation of \$11,550 by our Most Worshipful Grand Master, Dale I. Goehrig, for the Grand Master's Charity. Accompanying the Most Worshipful Grand Master was First Lady

Rebba, R.:W.: J. Dick Martinez, Deputy Grand Master and Lady Nancy, R.: W.: J. David Neveitt, State Chairman Grand Master's Charity and Lady Debbie, R.: W.: Ed Street, D.D.G.M., 21st Masonic District, Mrs. Lisa Tsotsos, Administrator Masonic Home of Florida and W.: William B. Garrett, Jr., District 21 Marshal & District 21 Chairman for the Grand Master's Charity.

This center's mission is "One Vision (to end Alzheimer's disease), One Center at the forefront of research and care and One Place for families."



Photos courtesy of W.: William B. Garrett, Jr., District 21, Marshal

Pictured 1 to r: R.:W.: J. David Neveitt, State Chairman Grand Master's Charity; Ms. Denise Ellison, Director of Development; Stephen K. Klasko, MD, MBA CEO for USF Health, Dean of the College of Medicine Professor of OB-GYN; Most Worshipful Dale I. Goehrig, Grand Master

## 75 Years as a Mason

A luncheon was held on July 14, 2009, at Bentley Village, Naples, Florida, to honor Brother George Scott Foster, (Scotty) to recognize his 75 year membership in Freemasonry. Brother Foster, a resident at Bentley Village, has arrived at a milestone that few people have achieved.

Brother Foster states that the teachings he received as a Mason had a major influence on his professional career and his personal life. He feels very good about the life he has led as a result of these teachings.

He retired from business in the early 1960's, his involvement in Collier County include: the County School Board, President of Moorings Property Owners Association, appointed as Neighborhood Watch liaison and President of GM's Executive Club.

Present for this celebration were the following Brethren from Cypress Lodge No. 295, F&AM: W.: Tony Bennett, Master, W.: Jeff Nowak, Senior Warden, R.: W.: Jim Kershaw, Secretary, W.: Lloyd Bowein, Treasurer, W.: Darryl Kourdouvelis and Brother Bojan Stricevic. Brother Foster was presented with a certificate and pin commemorating the 75th anniversary of his membership in this very prestigious organization. Members of Bentley Village's Management Team also came to congratulate Brother Foster on reaching this milestone.



## A Quote from Dan Brown, author of the novel *The Lost Symbol*

In the past few weeks, as you might imagine, I have been repeatedly asked what attached me to the Masons so strongly as to make it a central point of my new book. My reply is always the same:

*"In a world where men do battle over whose definition of God is most Accurate, I cannot adequately express the deep respect and admiration I feel toward an organization in which men of differing faiths are able to 'break bread together' in a bond of brotherhood, friendship, and camaraderie."*

Please accept my humble thanks for the noble example you set for humankind. It is my sincere hope that the Masonic community recognizes The Lost Symbol for what it truly is... an earnest attempt to reverentially explore the history and beauty of Masonic Philosophy.



## 2008 Grand Lodge Scholarship Winners

Brethren:

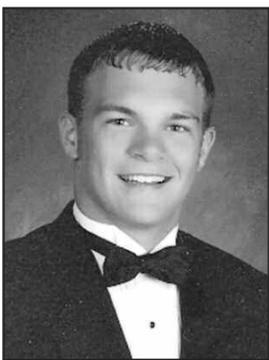
The Grand Lodge of Florida wishes to introduce to you the 10 Scholarship winners for 2008. We hope this will encourage our 2009 Zone and District Committeemen to work diligently in getting this year High School seniors to participate in our Scholarship Program.



Juan Sebastian Mancera



Jessica Glover



Brodie Ellis



Samantha Ann Dages



Laura E. Hebert



Kristi A. Livingston



Natalie Rodriguez



Marjorie Diaz-Lopez



Alexandra C. Clayton



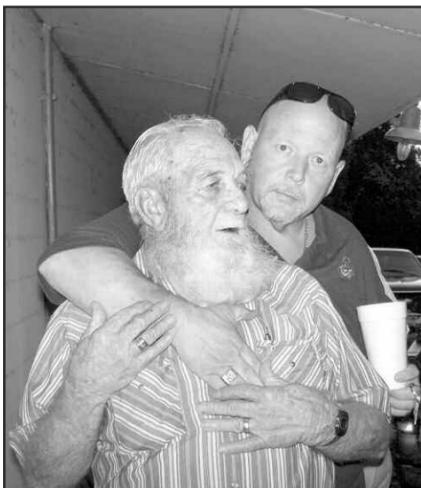
Lindsey N. Bigelow

## Mason's Receive Historic Visit

Representatives from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida visited with area Mason's from Hiram Lodge No. 5.



Five Master Masons were presented Aprons, Certificates, and Bibles during the Monday, Sept. 28 meeting of the Hiram Lodge No. 5 Free and Accepted Masons, Monticello, by the Grand Lodge Officers. From left to right are Paul Klug, Marvin "Bill" Hatcher, Mark Morgan, Pat Murphy, and Daniel Rhett Hoover.



Hiram Lodge No. 5 Free and Accepted Masons, Monticello, Right Worshipful Luther "Chop" Bodiford greets Tyler Brother Albert J. "Bert" Banks during the Monday, Sept. 28 meeting.



From left to right are District Deputy Grand Master 7th Masonic District Leroy McCaul Jr.; Grand Tyler Right Worshipful Rick Kasten; Junior Grand Warden Right Worshipful George Aladro; Senior Grand Warden Right Worshipful Jim Harris; Worshipful Master Hiram Lodge No. 5 Free and Accepted Masons Bob Montpellier; Deputy Grand Master Right Worshipful J. Dick Martinez; and District Instructor 7th Masonic District George Waas.

reprinted: Monticello News, DEBBIE SNAPP, Staff Writer

Hiram Lodge No. 5 had the distinct honor and privilege of receiving three of the Grand Lodge Officers, and Grand Tyler of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Florida, Sept. 28. Attending were Deputy Grand Master Right Worshipful J. Dick Martinez, Senior Grand Warden Right Worshipful Jim J. Harris, Junior Grand Warden Right Worshipful J.L.

"George" Aladro and Grand Tyler Right Worshipful Rick Kasten. With approximately 50 brethren observing this historic event, the Grand Lodge officers presented aprons, and Bibles to four of Hiram's newly raised Master Masons. The Deputy Grand Master also presented three silver, one green, and one blue Certificate of Qualification for being proficient in the various ceremonies and esoteric work of Freemasonry. A wonderful time was had by all, as the participants enjoyed great fellowship, fine food, and brotherly love that bonds all regular Masons in peace and harmony. Bob

Montpellier is Worshipful Master, Hiram Lodge No. 5 Free and Accepted Masons, Monticello, Florida.

Monticello News Photos By Debbie Snapp, Sept. 28, 2009.



## "I was the last one to know"

Those words spoken by Most Worshipful J. Roy Crowther, Grand Master in 1981, when told of the family night secret everyone in attendance already knew. Ezra Lodge had planned the event for months and it came off without a hitch. The secret everyone kept was that Ezra's dining room had been renamed for Most Worshipful Roy in honor of his more than 55-years of service to Ezra and the Craft in general. From now on our dining facility will be known as the M.:W.: J. Roy Crowther Fellowship Hall.

Festivities started with friends and guests renewing friendships, and even Roy didn't realize anything was afoot when Past Grand Master Sam Cowan appeared along with many others.

After a delicious meal served by Junior Warden Bobby Que and staff, Worshipful Master George Arnau asked M.:W.: Roy to come and stand next to him at which time the "cat" was finally let out of the bag. It was then we announced the room name change and the look on M.:W.: Roy's face said it all and his statement became one of Ezra's historic moments.

I know I speak for everyone who knows M.:W.: Roy when the applause died that his comment of "there are so many others who are more deserving of this honor" told us that we had made the right choice and he is truly a servant leader and Brother said the Worshipful Master.

## Masonic Leadership Meeting

The Grand Lodge Officers presented the first Masonic Leadership Meeting at Ensley Lodge No. 278 in Pensacola on September 30th and 31st.

The dining room was full both nights with Brothers from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Masonic Districts who enjoyed a hearty meal, and wealth of knowledge Presented by the Grand Line.

The Grand Lodge Officers present and making presentations were R.:W.:J. Dick Martinez, Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Jim J Harris, Senior Grand Warden, R.:W.: Jorge L. Aladro, Junior Grand Warden, M.:W.: Elmer G. Coffman, Grand Treasurer and M.:W.: Richard E. Lynn, Grand Secretary.

The presentations made by these Grand Lodge Officers were outstanding.

It showed the hard work each of these Brothers has put into the preparation of these presentations. It also shows how the Grand Line is working together to make our Grand Lodge the best in the Nation. We should be very supportive and proud of these fine Masons.

My Brothers, when a Masonic Leadership Meeting is scheduled in your area, I suggest you make arrangements to attend. You will not be dissatisfied.

R.:W.: Floyd Horton, P.D.D.G.M.

Zone 1 Chairman  
Public Relations Committee



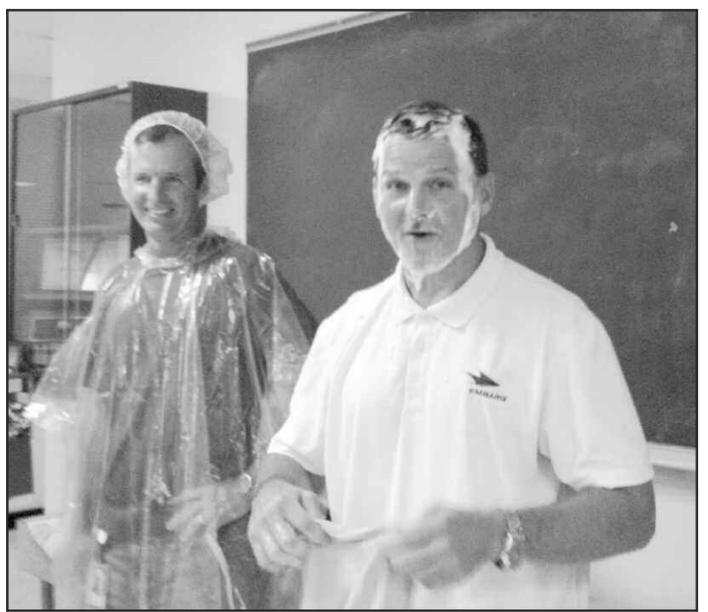
## “Pie in the Face” *By Charles Elul*

The Embarq Customer Relations Team (CRT) in Tallahassee held an event in conjunction with a company wide Food Drive to collect food and money for Elder Care Services of the Big Bend. Elder Care runs the Meals-on-Wheels program as well as a food bank for seniors who are struggling to feed themselves between social security checks.

The CRT arranged with the management to take a "Pie in the Face" for every \$50 dollars collected in a particular Manager's name.

Through out the course of my travels this year I was able to raise \$200, so that our Brother Jim Olsen would receive a total of 4 Pies! The funds that I raised were donated by many members of the Free & Accepted Masons of Florida, of which Jim Olsen and I are members. Jim is a local outside plant supervisor here and is well respected across the State. He currently serves as the State Chairman for the Child ID Program for the Grand Lodge of Florida and we travel to events all over the State on a regular basis. It was very easy to get our Brother Mason's to contribute to this cause when I told them that for every \$50.00 I raised Jim would get a Pie in the face, I raised a total of \$187 and pitched in the other \$13 to make it an even \$200.

Good Fun was had by all and Jim took his pies in the spirit of what the funds were raised for.



## New EA's at Riverside Lodge No. 266

Riverside Lodge No. 266 of Jacksonville conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on three new Brothers on August 31, 2009.

Shown were T. C. Towers, sponsor; Charles Towers III; Warren Moses, S.:W.: of Riverside Lodge No. 266; Richard Manges; Charles Towers II; Cary Brannan, W.:M.: of Riverside Lodge No. 266; and M.:W.: Samuel E. Cowan, M.:W.: PGM, F. & A. M. of Florida.

*Pictured here are the three new Entered Apprentices with their Sponsor; and the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, and M.:W.: Brother Samuel E. Cowan, M.:W.: PGM, after the Degree.*

## Rainbow Assembly No. 75 Presents New Project

The "Friendly" 10th Masonic District here in Northeast Florida is very fortunate to have the Rainbow Assembly No. 75 calling Dawkins Lodge No. 60, Free and Accepted Masons, in Macclenny, Florida, their home for the past two years. This active group of young women has earned statewide recognition for their proficiency and projects that benefit others. At Lake Butler Lodge Number 52, Free and Accepted Masons, Monday evening, October 19, 2009, four members of the Rainbow Assembly presented a project that helps children that are hospitalized. The project involves the assembly of boxes filled with theme-type party materials that are made available to hospitalized children. A box, for example, may contain materials for a birthday party. Coy Pacetti, the District Deputy Grand Master, was making his first Official Visit to Lake Butler Lodge. He encouraged all Freemasons to provide assistance to the Rainbow Assembly. Each of the eight Masonic Lodges in the "Friendly" 10th District are donating money to help build the party boxes and are very proud of the new Rainbow Assembly.

Ted Barber



left to right: Sammie Poole, Lindsey Caldwell, Shelby Murry and Jessie Poole. Both Sammie and Jessie are Grand Line Officers (Grand Confidential Observer and Grand Outer Observer, respectively) and Lindsey is a State Representative and Worthy Advisor.

## Pioneer Day Parade



The 53rd Annual Englewood Pioneer Day Parade & Festival was held on September 7th, 2009. The all day festival began with the traditional "Hometown Parade" that started at 9:00 AM, on Old Englewood Road and turned onto historic Dearborn Street. More than 80 Floats participated in the Parade, one of them being from our very own Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360, "King Solomon's Temple." After the Parade the festivities

began on either end of Historic Dearborn Street, bands entertained the crowd throughout the day. Once again Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360 had a booth serving BBQ Chicken and Ribs, specially prepared by our very own Worshipful Master Mike Cripps.

## Brother Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason

Brother Edward Osika a Member of The Builder's Lodge No. 376 Free & Accepted Masons was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 5th. He was presented a Grand Lodge of Florida Certificate of Membership during the June 16, 2009 Lodge meeting.

Yours Fraternally,  
Allen Sorbie, P.M.



## A Journey Through the Year

Riverside Lodge No. 266 is getting involved with the community. We have been very busy so far this year. We have jumped right in with both feet so to speak. We started off the year with helping move a Turtle. The Turtle statues were painted by local artist and even school kids, then auctioned off and put on display around town. All of the money went to Child Guidance Center in Jacksonville.

Next we hosted a blood drive in February at the Lodge where the Florida Georgia Blood Alliance sent a bus and many Brothers, family members and friends came out to donate.

We followed up with something that has not been done by a Brother at the Lodge in many years. We assisted our local elementary school with their "Play Day." We had a great time with the kids and games and started a relationship that with the new school year has turned into adopting them as our "Adopt-A-School" project along with one of their teach-

ers for "Adopt-A-Teach."

Around the time Grand Lodge Proceedings were taking place we had the pleasure of giving a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior at Robert E. Lee High School, located across the street from the Lodge. A picture was taken with Ms. Denise Hall, Principle from Robert E. Lee High School, W.: John Wallace, Secretary, Adam Smith, the recipient of the award, and W.: Jeff Barnes who started the Scholarship Fund a few years ago.

In June, for Flag Day, we hosted a Flag Retiring Ceremony with the local Boy Scout Troop and Pack. We had about 25 Scouts in attendance. We started the day with some education about the Flag, cooked hamburgers and hotdogs and finished at sunset with building a fire and having an Official Flag Retiring. It was educational for all. Even people driving by stopped to watch.

In August we had the pleasure of giving two more

scholarships to two students that do volunteer work at Nemours Children's Clinic. The two students are Kristie Vu, who is going to Duke University, and Leon Reed, who is going to school locally in Jacksonville. A picture was taken with them including W.: Stephan Bigelow and W.: Jeff Barnes.

We have made it this far and it's been a fun ride. We anticipate that the rest of the year will go well. We have planned quite a few more events to finish up the year. I have enjoyed meeting the people along the way and getting our Lodge back into the public eye. I am confident that what was started this year will continue to grow and the Brothers coming behind me to sit in the East will only improve on where we are headed.

Thanks!  
Cary Brannan, W.: M.:

Riverside Lodge No. 266, F.&A. M.



Blood drive with the Florida Georgia Blood Alliance



Scholarship award to Kristie Vu, Duke University



Scholarship award to Leon Reed, Jacksonville



Flag Day Ceremony



Adam Smith receiving \$500 scholarship



"Adopt-A-School" project

## Hawthorne Visits Wildwood



Saturday, September 26, 2009 - fifteen members of Hawthorne Masonic High Twelve Club No. 547 traveled to Wildwood, Florida, for a delicious breakfast prepared by the members and their ladies of Wildwood Masonic Lodge No. 92 in Sumter County, Florida.

On the last Saturday of each month Wildwood Lodge No. 92 prepares breakfast that is open to all, complete with choice of eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, toast, pancakes, coffee and orange juice - What a deal. The dining room was near capacity.

Also noticed in attendance were several members and their ladies from Bahia Shriner's Yellow Jacket Scooter Club who traveled in uniform on their scooters from The Villages to support and enjoy the vitals of the morning.

Everyone had a great time, enjoyed sharing the morning friendship, fellowship and the opportunity to visit and support our other Masonic groups.

October 26, the next outing, Hawthorne Masonic High Twelve Club No. 547 will have visited the Rainbow Girls of Mt. Dora. To experience their meeting and provide a small contribution to these young ladies and continue our High Twelve purpose in supporting our youth.

Raymond Trudeau

President High Twelve Club No. 547, Leesburg, Florida 34748

E-Mail: rayjan64@embarqmail.com

## Masonic RV Tours *By Karen Mitch, NCT*

NCT, National Camping Travelers, is a Masonic family camping club. The Suwannee River Travelers, a chapter in North Florida, conducts tours all over the US and Canada. Most chapters meet once a month and also attend State and National Rallies. Last year the National Rally was held in Lodi, CA, and the Suwannee River Travelers took a caravan of 19 rigs on a 32 day tour of Alaska. They were welcomed to the "Mile Zero" City of Dawson Creek, BC, by Peace Lodge No. 126. They also attended Tenana Lodge No. 3 in Fairbanks, AK. This August, they went on a 26-day tour of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island where several Lodges and Grand Masters received them with good food and fellowship. In all, they attended five Lodge meetings in the Maritime Provinces.

The national office publishes a quarterly magazine where the chapters list their upcoming rallies and campouts. Any NCT member can travel to any other NCT campout (sometimes unannounced) and join in the fun. The National Third Vice President, John Lehmann, of Lake City, Florida, calls it "crashing parties." Next summer's tours are in the planning stages. One tour will originate around Washington, DC, run along the

Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway to Asheville, NC, (the Biltmore Estate) and wind up at the National Rally in Lebanon, TN. If you are interested in caravanning or just camping with Masons and their families visit our website, [www.gonct.org](http://www.gonct.org).



Lobsterman Tour in Lunenburg, NS.  
(That's Diane Rothfuss holding up that lobster)



NCT Campers with Grand Master of Nova Scotia, Reno Favretto



## "Unity In Masonry"



## Ken Hall Receiving a Jacket

R.:W.: Ken Hall, D.D.G.M. received a jacket in honor and remembrance of his Dedication to his country as a Marine who survived the Chosin Reservoir Battle in North Korea November 27-December 13th, 1950, when approx. 30,000 UN troops faced 150,000 plus troops from the Peoples Voluntary Ninth Army group of China. Presented by J. B. Hunt, P.D.D.G.M. and Dominic Perez, P.M. of Ashlar Lodge No. 98 F. & A. M.

### BACKGROUND:

The Battle of Chosin Reservoir, also known as Battle of Changjin Lake battle in the Korean War in which 30,000 United Nations (UN) troops (nicknamed "The Frozen Chosin" or "The Chosin Few") under the command of American General Ned Almond faced approximately 150,000 Chinese troops of the People's Volunteer Army 9th Army Group under the command of Song Shi-Lun. The name Chosin is the Japanese rendition of the Korean place name Changjin. The name stuck due to the Japanese names given to locations listed on maps used by UN forces.

Shortly after the People's Republic of China entered the conflict, large numbers of Chinese soldiers swept across the Yalu River, encircling the UN forces in the northeastern part of North Korea at the Chosin Reservoir. A brutal battle in freezing weather followed. Although they inflicted enormous casualties on the Chinese forces, the UN troops were forced to evacuate North Korea after they withdrew from the reservoir to the port of Hungnam.

The events of the Chosin Battle, which had a decisive impact on the future course of the war, were fought in the seventeen day period between November 27 and December 13, 1950.

By mid-October 1950, the Korean War appeared to be nearly over to many UN leaders. Most of North Korea had been captured by UN forces. However, on October 25, 1950, the People's Republic of China entered the war and huge numbers of Chinese soldiers poured across the border into Korea. The UN command, under General Douglas MacArthur, was slow to appreciate the danger. MacArthur ordered his ground units, the Eighth United States Army in the west and the X Corps in the east, to continue their offensive to the Yalu River (the border with China) and to cut the Chinese supply route extending into the neighboring U.S. 8th

Army sector.

The X Corps - commanded by controversial Major General Ned Almond, U.S. Army - was widely spread out over northeastern Korea, its units far apart and out of supporting distance from each other. The X Corps troops at Changjin, mainly the U.S. 1st Marine Division, a regimental combat team, RCT31 of the U.S. 7th Infantry Division, and 41 Commando Royal Marines were, by late November, surrounded by units of the 9th Army Group of the People's Volunteer Army. The Chinese launched heavy assaults that halted the UN offensive. MacArthur and Almond ordered Major General O.P. Smith, commander of the 1st Marine Division and associated forces in the Chosin area, to fight his way out of the trap. Starting on November 26, 1950, the UN troops began a fighting withdrawal to the south, towards Hungnam. While General Almond was in overall command, both General Almond and General MacArthur had given General Smith orders to strike quickly to the Yalu. General Smith paid most of those orders lip service only. Instead of over-extending his units as the Army high command ordered, Smith slowly built up supply points along the way, which ultimately saved not only his division but the 7th Infantry Division and other UN forces as well. Keeping his units concentrated and moving deliberately, Smith made an aggressive assault to break out of the reservoir. When asked if the Marines were retreating, Smith explained that their fighting withdrawal through Chinese lines did not constitute a retreat. His explanation was "Retreat? Hell, we're attacking in a different direction!"

The 1st Marine Division was attacked by seven Chinese divisions on November 27, 1950. They fought their way out of the Chosin Reservoir against seven Communist Chinese divisions suffering over 900 killed and missing, over 3,500



wounded and more than 6,500 non-battle casualties mostly from frostbite during the battle. The greater part of the Chinese 9th Army was rendered ineffective as they suffered an estimated 37,500 casualties trying to stop the Marines' march out of the "Frozen Chosin."

The estimates of troops involved at the Chosin: Army 7th Infantry: RCT 31 est. 3,000 men; the three Marine regiments, est. 18,000 men; Army casualties about 2,000 KIA, 1,000 WIA and frostbite. The Marines lost 836 KIA and 12,000 frost bite and WIA. Chinese losses are estimated at 35,000 KIA. The battle officially ended December 11, 14 days after it began. The Chinese had used ten divisions, six against the Marines and four versus the Eighth Army that was some distance away west of the Taebuk Mountains. The Marines are credited with destroying three Chinese divisions and crippling several others to the extent that they were no longer a threat.



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## Welcome to the Grand Lodge of Florida



## R.:W.: Cecil Paul Englebert

R.: W.: Cecil Paul Englebert was Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 29, 1960. That exhibits by itself what type of unique person he was in Dunedin Lodge No. 192.  
He was a Member of the Board of Trustees for 26 years, beginning in 1993.

He was very involved and responsible for bringing the Toronto Blue Jays to Pinellas County, where they still have their spring training.

Cecil was also very instrumental in St. Petersburg being chosen for the Tampa Bay Rays. I'm sure he's just waiting for the Rays to duplicate a season like they had last year and not only complete in the World Series, but win it.

He is sorely missed by all of us who loved and cared for him, but I'm sure he's looking down on us still wanting to play one of his practical jokes.

This memorial dedication is to remind us of the full life our friend, companion and Brother enjoyed.

There are very few who gave of themselves as much and cared as much for this home as R.: W.: Cecil.



**"Unity In Masonry"**