

# The Florida Mason

Page 1

The Official Newsletter of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida

Volume 3, Issue 2



**Grand Lodge of Florida**  
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**Grand Lodge Officers**  
2010 - 2011

#### GRAND MASTER

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

#### DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

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

#### SENIOR GRAND WARDEN

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

#### JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN

**R.: W.: Danny R. Griffith**  
(Orange Park)

#### GRAND TREASURER

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

#### GRAND SECRETARY

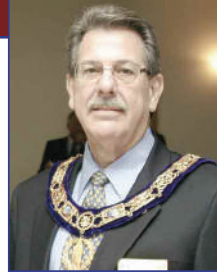
**M.: W.: Richard E. Lynn, PGM**  
(Jacksonville)

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

#### 2011 Deadlines:

**The Florida Mason**  
Vol. 4, Issue 1  
& **Masonic Lifestyles**  
Summer 2011

submission date  
March 31, 2011  
print date  
May 10, 2011



**M.: W.: J. Dick Martinez**  
Grand Master

waved at the guy. And, I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!" This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

He explained that many people are like garbage trucks. They run around full of garbage, full of frustration, full of anger, and full of disappointment. As their garbage piles up, they need a place to dump it and sometimes they'll dump it on you. Don't take it personally. Just smile, wave, wish them well, and move on. Don't take their garbage and spread it to other people at work, at Home, at Lodge or on the streets.

The bottom line is that successful people do not let garbage trucks take over their day. Life's too short to wake up in the morning with regrets.

## A Message From The Grand Master

### LAW OF THE GARBAGE TRUCK

One day I hopped in a taxi and we took off for the airport. We were driving in the right lane when suddenly a car jumped out of a parking space right in front of us. My taxi driver slammed on his brakes, skidded, and missed the other car by just inches!

The driver of the other car whipped his head around and started yelling at us. My taxi driver just smiled and waved at the guy. And, I mean, he was really friendly. So I asked, "Why did you just do that? This guy almost ruined your car and sent us to the hospital!" This is when my taxi driver taught me what I now call, "The Law of the Garbage Truck."

so... Love the people who treat you right. Pray for the ones who don't.

Life is ten percent what you make it and ninety percent how you take it!

The purpose for this Brethren, is just to remind us that while life does continue all around us we are extremely fortunate. We have our Sanctuary, Our Lodges. Let us not allow the Garbage Truck to come into our Lodges, and if they do respond as the taxi driver has with a smile, wave and wish them well.

Brethren, we are coming up on a time when we are about to elect our new Officers for the ensuing year. Let us not allow anyone in our Lodges to ram rod anyone or anything through that the Craft are not in favor of. Remember every Brother has but one vote.

Do not allow any type of electioneering to occur in your Lodges. The Craft are extremely knowledgeable and will do what is right.

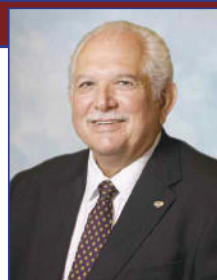
My Brothers, it is very close to the Holiday Season. Nancy and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas, and if we don't see you before then Happy New Year.

J. Dick Martinez  
Grand Master



## "Masons Always Rise To The Occasion"

## A Message From The Deputy Grand Master



**R.: W.: Jim J Harris**  
Deputy Grand Warden

My Brothers All:

Serving as your Deputy Grand Master this year gives me the pride and position to serve the Craft as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of our most precious jewel, our Masonic Home. This beautiful facility is located in St. Petersburg on Coffee Pot Bayou with 18 acres of manicured lawn and lush landscaping. It serves as the Home of some of the greatest Residents Masonry has to offer. They are spending their golden years surrounded by other Masons and their families. They interact with each other in activities, meals, and social events. They are cared for by a very competent staff with one aim, to ensure they get the best care possible and maintain their surroundings to the highest standards. The administrator, Mrs. Lisa Tsotsos, and her staff work to ensure the Residents have the best we have to offer. We as Masons can also be very proud that we continue to raise the capital required to meet these obligations. This has been a commitment for many years since the early 1900's and each generation of Masons recognize the importance and the obligation. Each generation of Masons is willing to rise to the occasion and with great pride, work very hard to support this promise.

Our Masonic Home is a 187 bed facility with approximately 100 Residents currently enjoying a tranquil secure environment. We presently have room to handle an additional 80 to 90 Brothers and their wives or widows.

There are two methods of application for admission into the Masonic Home.

### LIFE CARE

This traditional plan is available to any Master Mason who becomes a member of a Florida Lodge prior to the age of 70. He must be a member in good standing of a Florida Lodge for at least ten years and continually for the last three. The wife or widow of a Master Mason is eligible for residency based on his membership. Contact your Lodge or the Masonic Home for an application. Upon completion, the application is signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary. It is then presented to the District Deputy Grand Master for review. The application is then forwarded to the Admissions Committee, Board of Trustees and Grand Master for final approval. This process takes approximately 30-60 days. Dual members are also eligible.

Under the Life Care Plan, assets owned by the Resident such as property, bank accounts, stocks, social security, pensions, etc., are deposited with the Masonic Home. These assets are then converted to cash to es-

establish a Resident Maintenance account. Each month, this account is debited to cover the cost of care. Residents retain 10% of any liquid assets, initially and subsequently, in excess of \$10,000 for personal use. When assets are exhausted, the Masonic Home continues to provide care throughout the lifetime of the Resident regardless of his/her ability to pay.

### PRIVATE PAY PLAN

In May 2005, the Grand Lodge of Florida approved Private Pay admissions for Florida and non-Florida Masons. This plan provides an opportunity for Florida and non-Florida Master Masons and their wives or widows to retain control of their assets while enjoying all the Masonic Home has to offer. Residents pay a three month deposit and \$3,650\* monthly for Assisted Living and \$6,083\* monthly for Skilled Nursing care. Most fees and services are included except medication. For couples entering the Masonic Home, the first person pays this monthly fee and the second person fee is \$600\* monthly. Applicants for Pay As You Go should get in touch with the Masonic Home directly to begin the admission process which can take as little as one week for approval.

Brothers, if you know a Brother or his widow that is in need of assistance, please make sure they are aware of the Masonic Home of Florida. Set up a tour of the facility and speak with either Mrs. Lisa Tsotsos, the Masonic Home Administrator, or Mrs. Debbie Neveitt, the Business Office Manager. They both can be reached at a toll free number 866-868-6749 and will be happy to discuss the procedure for making application to the Masonic Home. \*Rates are subject to change.

We have one of the few Masonic Homes across the Country that limits the admissions to only Masons, their wives or widows and not the general public. This says a lot about the Brothers of Florida and their unrelenting resolve to keep the commitment made and continued since the early 1900's.

We should continue to work hard to get the word out and fill our Masonic Home. We have Brothers entering the Home on a regular basis but most wait until they are well along life's journey before they apply. We must encourage them to visit so they can see for themselves that it is a lifestyle that they will enjoy.

Brothers, also don't forget our PILGRIMAGE DAY held at the Masonic Home on March 19, 2011. This is a great time for all of the Brothers to visit because the day is filled with activities, entertainment, a great lunch, First Ladies Project ribbon cutting ceremony and much more. Please get your Lodge enthused and come as a group. It would be great if we could get 1,000 Brothers to attend.

I am so proud to represent all Brothers across the State as your Deputy Grand Master and thank you for that honor.

Brother Jim



R. W. J. L. "George" Aladro  
Senior Grand Warden

## A Message From The Senior Grand Warden

Dear Brothers,

Allow me to thank you for the opportunity you have given me to continue to serve the gentle Craft I so deeply love. As I have said many times before, with you everything is possible, but without you it is not worth the sacrifice.

Soon we will be looking at the holidays and while we reflect on another year of Thanksgiving I pray that everyone finds themselves in good health and happiness. I ask you to join with me in raising our prayer to the Great Architect of the Universe for the many blessings he has conferred on us. For his broad mantle of charity to be spread over those less fortunate, the ill and the distressed and more, importantly that He watch over our Nation where our motto "In God we Trust" is still relevant to the majority who are God loving people.

Now back to our discussion. It seems impossible but half the year has already gone by and although we have accomplished many things, we have yet to reach our goals. You have probably witnessed many different events in the last six months, mostly the Grand Master's Official Visit where the messages from your Grand Lodge Officers including that of the Grand Master have been different from years before.

Your Grand Lodge Officers have tried to bring you up to date with what is going on in the State and how we are trying to assist the Lodges with whatever assistance they may need, if they desire to improve themselves and Lodge in Masonry. One of our goals is to deliver better service to the Brothers and Lodges according to their needs.

One major difference has been the report of the District Deputy Grand Masters this year, which will continue improving in the years to follow. Although this has been the first year these reports have been used, the information gathered thus far has been a revelation.

The truth, my Brothers, is that we have found that we need to offer greater assistance to the Lodges, we need to encourage the Brothers to do better, we need to raise the bar of expectations by which we will measure ourselves, our Lodges, and our Fraternity.

I remember a time when a friendly rivalry existed among the Brothers seeking to lead the future of the Lodge by becoming Appointed and finally Elected Officers of the Lodge. This competition created a higher quality of Ritual and Business operation of the Lodge, because at that time we had many Brothers from which to choose.

Today, we do not have Brothers waiting to get in line. We hurry the Brothers to get involved whether they are ready or not. A disservice to the Brother and the Lodge, as a result he does not have the time to learn before he needs to move again. Unwarranted advancement further exacerbates the problem because the perception, which has been created of there being no need to learn because regardless of performance, proficiency, or dedication you will reach whatever aspirations you, may have just because you are present. Sad but true.

The need to get the new Brothers involved is very important, but they do not have to be an Appointed or Elected Officer in the next 24 hours after the Raising as it has

been done in some cases. We all have plenty to do around the Lodge in which you can get the Brother(s) occupied, with all types of committee work, keeping him busy with educational material, involved with other Candidates and Brothers in the various stages of the Degree, allow them to participate in the Lodge Practices. A Lodge properly run and operated will have ample opportunities for Brothers to participate in all kinds and types of jobs, and not be an Appointed or Elected Officer.

Further, there is no need to fill every chair in the Lodge; some can be pro tem with various Brothers until you find the Brother that better fits in that position. We need the Past Masters of our Lodges to step up, take some of these positions, and give the new Brothers breathing room to learn their part, if you remember we were given that opportunity and we owe them at least that much.

We are constantly saying that we need to keep the new Brothers busy and that is entirely true and there is plenty to do in the Lodge as it has been stated before and making him an Officer should not be your first choice. Think of this you just hired a brand new employee and the very next day, week, month or year you give him the reigns of your business for him to run as he sees fit or within the confines of tradition or law. How long will you think you would stay in business? I dare say not very long before you get in trouble with the customers and government. Therefore, why would you do that in your Lodge? This can also apply to your household let your child run the household the minute they are of age not having done it before and being that they know everything stand by for a major awakening, experience, education, dedication, sacrifice my Brothers has no substitute.

This year I have decided to write a newsletter to establish a dialogue with as many Florida Masons as would care to receive it. The purpose of this newsletter is to raise the awareness of what it is happening in the Masonry across the State in a more timely fashion. Further, we want to try to have everyone one of us look at ourselves to see if in this time of need whether we are doing all we can do for your Lodge and Fraternity, this is a question for you to ask yourself when you are looking at that man in the mirror.

My Brothers, I am asking you to do better than you are doing, because I'm asking myself to do more as well, I know that if I can do it so can you. Our Creator has endowed us as equal men with the same capabilities. We may not be able to both excel in the same things but we can excel and together we can cover all the needs for a Lodge to operate as the perfect Lodge. Will you commit to yourself to raise the bar, to do better than you are doing now, will you join me in that endeavor, will you my Brother?

Brethren, I leave you with this challenge. Will you meet me in your District next year when I come to visit with you, in an open forum where we can have frank discussions on where we are, and where we are going? I look forward to seeing you as I travel the highways and byways of this State bringing you good tidings for the future.

In closing, as I have said many times before, My Brothers without you nothing is worth doing, with you, everything is possible; you are the catalyst that energizes me to do better.

Fraternally, your Brother and Humble Servant,  
Jorge L. "George" Aladro  
Senior Grand Warden



R. W. Danny R. Griffith  
Junior Grand Warden

## A Message From The Junior Grand Warden

Brethren:

We can not continue our present downward spiral of membership without threatening the existence of our Fraternity. We have lost over 6,500 Brothers over the past five years due to NPDs, an average of over 1,300 each and every year. Your Grand Lodge Officers and Corporate Board have approved a plan whereby members may pay their dues by the use of credit cards if this program is accepted by your Lodge. It is hoped that this program will help the Lodges retain their members, but it is only one step in retaining membership. The details of this program are currently being forwarded to the various Lodges throughout the State.

We must still make more of an effort in our Lodges to reduce this loss. We can't wait until we send out the overdue notices.

We must start as early as January by contacting those Brothers who are in arrears and inviting them to come to the Lodge during one of our communications. Hopefully this will generate a reminder. We must also use a telephone calling list to contact them. Be pro-active and help your Lodge and the Fraternity.

Your Elected Grand Lodge Offices are working very hard to develop programs which will help our Lodges function, but we need your help to do so. If you have an idea which you think will benefit the Fraternity, please E-mail any one of us with your ideas and we will look into them. Help us help you!

The development of the Masonic Leadership Training Program and Manual will have a tremendous positive impact on the operation of our Lodges. Every Officer in the Lodge, as well as those who are currently sitting on the sidelines who hope for an appointment, should procure a copy of this manual and study it. It will definitely help you learn how to perform your duties in the Lodge. Also, attend the various training sessions which are currently being held throughout the State. We are hearing great comments from those who have attended sessions to date.

Again, my Brothers, I want to thank you for having the confidence in me to elect me as your Junior Grand Warden. I am deeply honored and grateful to be in this position and I will do my very best to see that you are not disappointed.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Danny R. Griffith  
Junior Grand Warden



## Pancake Breakfast for Band Uniforms

A check for \$577.45 was presented to Band Director Stacey Gindlesperger by the breakfast organizer and Chaplain for Hayward Lodge No. 45, David Shapiro. Also in the picture are Hayward's Worshipful Master Chip Harris, Josh Sanders, Emily Pfender, Jason Yoo and Band Booster Treasurer Melissa Burgess.

Hayward Lodge No. 45, in cooperation with the First Methodist Church of Live Oak, held a pancake breakfast to raise money for the Suwannee High School Band to help pur-

chase uniforms and supplies needed for the band. Breakfast was served to nearly 250 folks who gave generously for this activity.

Suwannee High School Jazz Band performed and entertained everyone at the breakfast. There were many folks that set up tables and sold various goods along with some delicious hamburgers and hot dogs.

"PINK LODGE FEB. 11, 2011"



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

### A Message From The Grand Secretary

Well, it's that time of the year again when we pause and reflect on how lucky we are to have our family, friends, and Brothers in our lives. As 2010 draws to a close take time to tell someone near and dear to you how much you love and cherish them. I often reflect on how lost I would be without my family and Brothers. A hug, kiss, or handshake always gives me that warm fuzzy feeling. The staff at your Grand Lodge office has been very busy and productive over the past several years. Most, if not all, of the Grand Lodge published material for Masonic Education has been updated and ready for the use of your Lodge.

We have forwarded 6,500 letters to Brothers that, for whatever reason, have been suspended for non-payment of dues signed by the Grand Master requesting them to come back to the Lodge.

In the planning stages are several "Welcome Snow Birds Parties" across the State. Most of the Grand Lodges in America have supplied us with a list of their Brothers living or wintering in Florida. They will be requested

to attend Lodge with you. It is hoped they will assist the Lodges in Florida with increasing their attendance.

Your Elected Grand Lodge Officers and Grand Lodge Committees are working diligently to advance the education of the Lodge Officers and members, thereby building a strong base of Officers for the future.

I wish to thank the staff at the Grand Lodge Office for their dedication and devotion. Now in parting, I wish for you a happy and healthy Holiday Season. May God Bless You and Your Loved Ones in the coming year!

Sincerely and fraternally,  
Richard Lynn, P.G.M.  
Grand Secretary



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

### A Message From The Grand Treasurer

Brethren,

The long hot days of summer are past, the nice cool weather is here, the Lodges who went "dark" are back to work and the holiday season is just around the corner. What a great time to be a Mason and enjoy life.

The Grand Lodge Officers have been very busy over the summer with District Meetings and many other Lodge functions to attend. One of the greatest benefits we derive from being a Mason is all the friends we make and it is certainly nice to see so many of them as we travel around the State. It is very enjoyable to attend the meetings and socialize and have dinner with the Brothers and Sisters, or as we true southerners would say, have "supper".

Since our Grand Lodge Communication in June, many new or revised programs have been made available to the Craft. I urge you to take advantage of these programs, especially if you are a Lodge Officer or someone who would like to become a Lodge Officer. We have also seen a large increase in the activity of the Grand Lodge Committees. The State and Zone Chairmen are working hard to promote their various projects and committees for the benefit of the Craft and the community as well.

One of the more visible programs in the community which has been and continues to be very successful is the Child I.D. Program. Most of the Districts have a Child I.D. team and have processed thousands of children during this Grand Lodge year. If this program could save just one child, it would be worth all the time, money, and effort put forth.

Another Grand Lodge Program which is so important to our Fraternity is our Schools of Instruction. Our District Instructors are some of the hardest working Brothers in the State and many times they do not get the thanks they deserve. They work to preserve our Ritual which is time honored and the one single thing which separates us as Masons from all other fraternal organizations. Our Ritual has been faithfully transmitted to us by our ancient Brethren and it is our duty to not only become proficient in the Ritual ourselves, but also to convey it unimpaired to the latest posterity.

May God richly bless you and your family.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
Elmer G. Coffman, P.G.M.  
Grand Treasurer

## Martinez Dubbed As Honorary Sir Knight

Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez is dubbed as an Honorary Sir Knight of Col. James "Nick" Rowe Priory, Order of Knighthood, by Illustrious Knight Commander, Sir Knight Jesse J. Knafla. Knighthood is a subsidiary organization to the Order of DeMolay, and this honoring took place at their 17th Annual Cotillion on Saturday, October 16, 2010, at the Tampa Scottish Rite. An honorary Knighthood is bestowed upon a male leader within the Masonic Fraternity who has performed meritorious service on behalf of DeMolay and/or Knighthood, and is only granted upon the unanimous vote of the Sir Knights in attendance.



## Roe Fulkerson Lodge No. 299

Roe Fulkerson Lodge held and sponsored an essay writing competition at Driftwood Middle School, in Hollywood, Florida. The competition was one of several elements of Worshipful Master Stewart Davies' mission for his year. This was the first time the Lodge had gone out into the community's school system with the intention of raising awareness in the local community of our existence.

The school had five 8th grade teams of 125 students in each, submit entries. The 8th grade faculty chose the top 24 entrants and sent them to the Lodge Essay Committee for their selection of 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners. The winning team received a pizza party at their school.

On June 3, 2010, Roe Fulkerson Lodge held an open meeting to present certificates and prizes to the top 24 entrants in the competition. 107 Brothers, students, teachers and guests were in attendance. Dinner was served, the Lodge opened, was put at ease, and the guests were invited into the Lodge Room for the Ceremony. Other than the prize giving, the most popular part of the evening was the



"Make your own ice cream sundae party" after the Awards Ceremony! In true Masonic Tradition, the total cost of the event was generously donated by the Brothers of Roe Fulkerson Lodge.

## Pioneer Days at Lodge No. 360

Englewood Pioneer Day Parade. Our very own Past D.D.G.M. and P.M. of Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360, Gene Jeffers, requested me to send this information to you for the newsletter/magazine "The Florida Mason."

"The 54th Annual Englewood Pioneer Days Parade & Festival was held on September 6th, 2010.

The all day festival began with the traditional "Hometown Parade" that started at 9:30 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 "Block Party" began on either end of Historic Dearborn Street; bands entertained the crowd throughout the day.



Brothers of the Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360.



Scott Budwitz "The Architect" of the Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360 Float.



Past Master Mike Cripps of the Englewood Masonic Lodge No.360 waves to the crowd.

## 20th & 21st Masonic District's Back to School Party

Article Submitted by W.: Billy Garrett, Jr., P.M., District 21 Marshal  
Photos Courtesy of Earl Ray, W.: M.: St. Petersburg Lodge No. 139

On Saturday, August 21, 2010, a back to school event took place from 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.. Many local parents and school age children attended this event. There were games and activities, music and backpacks filled with school supplies, hot dogs, chips, and punch. Brothers of both the 20th & 21st Masonic Districts participated in the Child ID program; in all we ID'd well over fifty children with two computers constantly going non-stop. This was coordinated and supported by the following who well-deserve recognition: Lealman Family Service Center; Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PAL); Pepsi Corporation; Feeding America; Dream Center; Lealman Fire Department and Lealman United Methodist Church.



All the Brothers that assisted that day did an outstanding job as well; and need to be commended, devoted on making a difference in their community and keeping our children safe.

## Five Eagle Scouts Receive Awards

Five Eagle Scouts from Troop 425, Gulfstream Council, Boy Scouts of America, Ft. Pierce, FL, were presented their Eagle Scout Awards at a public ceremony held Saturday, May 15, 2010, at Ft. Pierce Masonic Lodge No. 87.

Masonic Youth Pins and appropriate Eagle Scout Certificates were presented to Eagle Scouts Robert Allen; Brett Browning; Robert Mullins; John Star; and Michael Star by Worshipful David Evans-Brown, Past Master of Ft. Pierce No. 87 representing M.:W.: Dale I. Goehrig, Past Grand Master of Mason in Florida; R.:W.: Otis Ben Geiger II, Past District Deputy Grand Master for the 30th Masonic District; and W.: Douglas Ankeny, Past Master of Ft. Pierce No. 87.



Front Row from L-R: Robert Allen, Brett Browning, Robert Mullins, John Star and Michael Star, all Eagle Scouts, second row: W.: David Evans-Brown, Past Master and current Secretary of Ft. Pierce No. 87.

## Independence Day Celebration in Jacksonville, Florida

Solomon Lodge No. 20, F. & A. M. organized and sponsored an Independence Day Celebration at Confederate Park and their Lodge in Jacksonville on Saturday, July 3, 2010.

It was open to the public. There was an excellent turnout of Brothers, families, friends and the public. Included were: music, food, a live auction, speeches, miniature train and carriage rides, Patrick Henry & Benjamin Franklin impersonations, and more.

As a part of the Celebration, George Washington's original gavel which was used in the laying of the cornerstone of the U. S. Capitol Building on September 18, 1793, was on display with it's traveling historians, in the Solomon Lodge No. 20 building. Shown here with the gavel were W.: Gregg McCaulie, Judge 4th Judicial Circuit Court and W. M. of Solomon Lodge No. 20, with Richard E. Lynn, PGM and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida. (Also shown were, Art Yeaman as Ben Franklin and Barry Collins as Patrick Henry with the gavel.)

The inscription on the gavel gold cap reads: "This Gavel was prepared for Bro. George Washington for the purpose of laying the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol and was so used by him September 18, 1793. He then presented it to Potomac Lodge No. 9 of



Maryland, afterward Potomac Lodge No. 43, and now Potomac Lodge No. 5 of the Grand Lodge of the D.C., by whose Order of 1849 this Inscription is placed upon it. 1856"

A duplicate copy of the Masonic apron worn by George Washington at the laying of the Cornerstone was also on display. The Independence Day Celebration was a fine and enjoyable success.

## Youth Night at Boyton Beach Lodge No. 236



Boynton Lodge No. 236 had an open Youth Night on June 13, 2010. An exceptional evening was enjoyed by about 80 to 90 attendees.

The evening started with representatives from the local Boy Scouts of America Troop raising a new flag in front of the Lodge, replacing a worn one. Our own Brother Jim Bowman is a District Director here in Gulfstream Council and arranged for their wonderful help.

Next on the agenda, the Lodge presented two very qualified and deserving students; Dylan M. Edmiston and Rondell M. Nairn with college scholarships. The two students were chosen by the Lodge Scholarship Committee who made a diffi-

cult decision after wading through many excellent applications.

The stirring part of the evening was a beautiful talk given by one of our own Boynton DeMolay Chapter's young men, the Junior Warden, Brother Nathaniel Armstrong, who presented the flower talk to the Lodge, family, and friends. Nathaniel did a wonderful job with his presentation and made all the Ladies happy when the members of DeMolay that were present handed out flowers to all the Ladies in the Lodge Room.

After wiping away the tears, everyone retired to the collation room where pizza, beverages, and desert were served.

## Grand Master Presents Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award

Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez, Grand Master of Masons of Florida, at his official visit to the 11th and 12th Masonic Districts in Jacksonville on July 10, 2010, presented the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award to Brother Charles R. Towers.

The Award Certificate read, in part, "For outstanding service to youth and Freemasonry by serving as a dedicated member of Riverside Lodge No. 266, and a devoted Scouting Leader of the North Florida Council No. 087, Boy Scouts of America."



Brother Charles Towers and M.:W.: Dick Martinez, M.:W.: Grand Master of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida at the presentation of the award.

## Harmonia Lodge Welcomes Father and his Two Sons

West Palm Beach, Florida - On May 19th, 2010 Harmonia Lodge welcomed to the Craft a father and two sons. They were Raised at Lake Worth Scottish Rite Temple on the same night. The father Ronald DiCurcio was Raised with his two sons Daniel and Nick DiCurcio. Nicholas was also our first 19 year old to be Raised.



L to R: Daniel DiCurcio, Ronald DiCurcio, Nick DiCurcio, and W.:M.: William O'Sullivan sitting Master of Harmonia No. 138.

All submissions for future issues of *The Florida Mason* should be sent to, Larry Scott, Grand Lodge, 904-354-2339 or E-Mail: larry.scott@glflamason.org

All submissions for future issues of *The Masonic Lifestyles* should be sent to, Lisa Tsotsos, Toll Free at 866-868-6749 or E-Mail: masonichm@aol.com

"PINK LODGE FEB. 11, 2011"

## Dunedin Lodge No. 192 Provide "Bikes For Books"

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 Assembly Program recognizing scholastic achievement by the students. Accordingly, the Lodge provided bicycles for the school's top readers as part of their "Bikes for Books" program. The program is administered by the school, whereby students earn points for the books they read throughout the school year. At the end of the year, the top boy and girl readers from each grade (K - 5th) are recognized by the Masons in the form of a new bicycle.

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." Cindy Borland is the school's Reading/Literacy Coach.



### THIS YEAR'S WINNERS INCLUDED:

GRADE	BOY WINNERS	GIRL WINNERS
Kindergarten	James Jackson	Ariyana Nesbitt
1ST	Taylor Bond	Nerli Hernandez
2ND	Xain Tooker	Jennifer Diaz
3RD	Santiago Romero	Rezielle Natnat
4TH	Nathaniel Grimm	Taylor Walker
5TH	DJ Street	Cristina Rogers

Dunedin Masons on hand for the presentation included: Bro. Steve Andrews, W.: Tim Bryce, P.M., W.: Ken Giesow, P.M., Bro. Chris Laughlin, R.: W.: Bob Matheson, P.M., R.: W.: Bill McIntosh, P.M., P.D.D.G.M., W.: Shannon McIntosh, P.M., W.: Mike Palenik, P.M., Bro. Matt Panzano, W.: BJ Sammon, P.M., W.: Rome Scerbo, P.M., and R.: W.: Chris Schlenker, P.M., P.D.D.G.M.

According to Ken Giesow, the Lodge/School liaison, "This is the second year we have implemented the Bikes for Books program and we're told that it is having a positive effect on encouraging the students to read. 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 Dunedin Lodge."

Deputy Spencer Gross of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department was also on hand to give a brief lecture on bicycle safety to the students and presented free bicycle helmets to the winners.

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, W.: Mike Wilson, "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 common sense that we support them any way we can."

Photos by Kevin Schlenker.

## Paws for Patriots

Each day of every month our service men and women put their lives on the line for us. They do this willingly and with pride for our Nation because they know FREEDOM IS NOT FREE. They continue to help us and now it's our turn to help them.

Service dogs are needed now more than ever to help our returning soldiers and veterans; however, there is no government assistance available to help them with this expense. Therefore, many of them are in need of financial help to purchase and train these service dogs.

The members of the Order of the Eastern Star are eagerly promoting a new and exciting program - you may have seen it at Grand Lodge this year. The Program is entitled "PAWS FOR PATRIOTS". This project will provide trained service dogs for our returning soldiers and veterans. Service dogs are fully trained to help our heroes live a life free of barriers and provide mobility, independence and companionship. Through the General Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and Florida Grand Chapter, this program will not only serve mankind but will help us show our patriotism.

The Order of the Eastern Star is selling a beautiful "Grateful American Coin". These coins are for Veterans who have served or continue to serve our great Nation. Purchase one for yourself then one for any relatives and/or friends who have served in the military. Show your appreciation. Say



"Thanks" To A Vet.

The Coins are imprinted "Thank you For Your Service" and "From a Grateful American" on one side and "To a Member of Our U.S. Armed Forces" on the other. The cost for each coin is \$10.00 including tax plus \$1.50 for Shipping.

Each coin is 1.75" in Diameter, is 4mm in depth and weighs approximately 2 oz

Send Your Check or Money Order To:

R.: W.: Ron Newton  
6476 Evergreen Avenue  
Seminole, FL 33772-6505  
(727) 638-7463

The Grand Chapter of Florida, Order of the Eastern Star, Inc. Registration No. CH23035 and the Grand Chapter of Florida, Charitable Foundation, Inc. Registration No. CH23036, are charitable organizations registered with the State of Florida under Section 496.405 Florida Statutes. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free (800-535-7352) within the State. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

## Masons of Florida Care For Each Other

As a part of our obligation to care for our own, Lake Lodge No. 72, Lake Como, is taking a more proactive part in assisting Corky's Cupboard in the caring of the needs of our worthy Brothers residing at the Masonic Home located in St. Petersburg Fl.

Representing Lake Lodge No. 72 are the Worshipful Master Thomas Stuto and our Senior Warden David Tanner in presenting the District Deputy Grand Master for the 13th Masonic District, Troy Usina, a basket of some needed items. Baskets such as these will be placed in all our Lodges in the 13th District to better meet the needs of our Brothers.



L to R: R.:H.: Mark Manuz, R.:W.: Troy Usina, Worshipful Thomas Stuto and Senior Warden David Tanner

Contact information:  
Paul O'Kelley, 386-244-4043  
Futherlight72@hotmail.com

## Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award

On September 21, 2010, at Beach No. 354, two Master Masons were awarded the Daniel Carter Beard Scouter Award.

The Daniel Carter Beard Scouter Award is an honor due to members of the Masonic Lodge who act as role models and provide dedicated service to the young men in the Boy Scouts of America. The Daniel Carter Beard Scouter Award not only supports the Masonic relationship through the man who brought Scouting to America, but proclaims the integrity of the recipient who is honored by receiving the award.

The awards were presented to them by Brother Sheldon "Bud" Smith, a recipient of the award himself in 2005. Bud has 52 years as a Scout Leader and 50 years as a Master Mason.

Brother Dave Spear has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America for 46 years, as a youth and as an adult. As a youth, Dave participated in Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts, earning the Eagle Scout Rank in 1973. He was also active in the Order of the Arrow, working in many service projects. He was recognized with the Vigil Honor as a youth. As an adult Scouter, Dave has been very active. He has served as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, Explorer Adviser and currently serves as a Venture Crew Adviser for a Scuba Diving Crew in Melbourne, Florida. He has been very active in Training on the District Level, has attended Wood Badge and received his beads and has served on Wood Badge Staff. He has served as District Training Chairman, two years as District Chairman, other countless programs and weekend

Scouting. Dave has also served on the Commissioners staff and as District Commissioners. Dave is a James E. West Fellowship member and a member of the Heritage Society.

Brother Dave is currently serving as Chaplain of Beach Lodge in Satellite Beach, Florida.

Brother Kirk Hall has been a member of the Boy Scouts of America for 42 years, as a youth and as an adult. As a youth, Kirk participated in Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts, earning the Arrow of Light and the Eagle Scout Rank with nine Eagle palms. He was also active in the Order of the Arrow serving as Lodge Treasurer for three terms and Lodge Chief for one term. He was recognized with the Vigil Honor as a youth. He received the God and Country Religious Award as a youth as well.

As an adult Scouter, Kirk has been very active since finishing graduate school in 1984. In Dan Beard Council in Cincinnati, Ohio. He served as Scoutmaster and on the Council Training Committee where he was the Course Director for Dan Beard Camp, a youth leader training program. Kirk received his Scouter's Training Award, Scoutmasters Key and Distinguished Scoutmasters Award from Dan Beard Council. He also attended Wood Badge and received his beads. Dan Beard Council recognized Kirk with the Silver Beaver Award in 1998.

Upon moving to Florida in 1997, Kirk became active in Central Florida Council

serving in a multitude of capacities on the unit, District and Council Levels. He has been a Webelos Den Leader, Cubmaster and Pack Committee Chair in the Cub Scout Program, District Advancement Chair and District Chairperson on the District Level, Member of the Council Endowment Committee, Council V.P. of Program and Council Commissioner on the Council level currently serves on the Council Executive Board and as one of the Council's National Council Representatives. Kirk has attended 6 National Meetings as a voting member. He served on Wood Badge Staff in 2001. He also served two years as Chapter Advisor and 4 years as Lodge Adviser in Tipisa Lodge of the Order of the Arrow. Kirk was recognized with the District Award of Merit in 2002. Kirk is a James E. West Fellowship Member and a Member of the Heritage Society.

Brother Kirk is currently serving as Senior Deacon of Beach Lodge in Satellite Beach, Florida.

The Blue and White Medalion was placed around their necks and Certificates and Square Knot presented to them.



W.:M.: Timothy Griffin and Brother Sheldon "Bud" Smith presenting award to Brother Kirk Hall while Brother David Spears looks on Brother Dave Spear (left) and Brother Kirk Hall (right)

## Symbolism of the Hiramic Legend

This paper is my interpretation of the symbolism of the Hiramic Legend, as it relates to what I believe, we as Masons should learn from it. Every lesson that we obtain from Freemasonry takes much time, study, and contemplation to allow us to understand and acquire a correct interpretation of it. This is why it is necessary for us to attend the conferring of the Degrees; to read and study what has been written about Freemasonry; have conversations with well informed Brothers as to their beliefs and understanding; and to contemplate in an effort to reach a correct and proper understanding of Freemasonry's principles and tenets.

Masonry is taught by symbolism and allegory which simply means that we can't take anything we see or hear at face value. Each symbol represents something that isn't and each allegory is a story that tells us one thing, but means something else. I state the obvious in order to explain a thought which I find crucial to understanding why the lessons of our Degrees take so much study and thought for us to understand. We all know that Masonry is an Ancient Institution. This being the case we each need to realize that unlike today, when Masonry was founded education, as we know it today, was a rare thing. Very few people had any type of formal education and most who were considered to have any type of education were self taught. This fact added to the fact that those who founded Masonry had no intention of allowing the masses to gain an understanding of or to obtain knowledge of Freemasonry's secrets, is to my way of thinking, the reason why our lessons are structured and presented in the manner that they are. Masons of that day had to have a way to teach the moral lessons of our beloved Fraternity without the aid of schools, books, or any of the things we take for granted today necessary for giving or receiving a formal education.

As I stated earlier this is my interpretation and each and every Mason is free to accept or reject my thoughts as he sees fit. Since this is my interpretation I will not cite any author or instructor, but I will state that I have read many books and articles on the subject of Masonry and I have had many interesting conversations with Brothers that I consider to be well informed and had a great understanding of Masonry. Each has had an influence on what I think and each is important to me, but my purpose here is simply to explain what I believe is the meaning that we should take from the Hiramic Legend. We can search the Bible and history books but we will not find the story of Hiram Abiff as we tell it in the second section of our Master Mason Degree. Therefore we must assume that this story is an allegory and it will take study and contemplation to understand its true meaning.

Simply put this part of our Degree work is just another way of telling the age old story of the struggle between good and evil. The purpose of this paper is an attempt to explain how I believe the main characters of the Second Section of the Master Mason Degree are used as symbols, their meaning, and how they are used to impress the lesson that they are intended to impart.

Solomon King of Israel, Hiram King of Tyre, and Hiram Abiff represents Wisdom, Honesty, and perseverance. Collectively they represent all that is good and pure in the world. They epitomize Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. They represent the state of perfection that each of us should be striving to attain, even though we will never be able to reach it. The three principle Fellow Crafts represent the labor that each of us must perform, the contemplation that we must exercise, and the care for the welfare of all mankind's well being, that we as Masons are charged to exercise each day of our lives in order to become more loving, compassionate, and tolerant each day than we were the day before. That we constantly grow in order to get closer to that state of perfection that we strive to obtain, and to ensure that the world is left a better place when we leave it than it was when we arrived in it. The three Ruffians represent ignorance, prejudice, and greed. They are the forces of evil that are constantly attempting to undo and defeat the forces of good. Once we realize what each of these groups of characters represent then we are able to contemplate their effects on the human condition.

The first Ruffian represents Ignorance. Ignorance in this context is the lack of knowledge of how to properly relate to and act toward others or how to consider the welfare of others. Ignorance allows a person to be easily led or influenced to commit offenses that can and do harm other people. These offenses can take the form of plotting against someone or some group of persons, spreading rumors, lying, or other conduct that is detrimental to others or that may benefit the perpetrator at someone else's expense. Ignorance stifles the mental growth of a human being and helps prevent his ability to think beyond self. It also tends to foster an exaggerated sense of self entitlement which tends to encourage the type of behavior that ignorance perpetuates.

The second Ruffian represents prejudice. Prejudice creates and encourages hate and intolerance. The practice of intolerance makes a person or group reject the opinion or belief of others summarily, without giving any thought as to the validity or value of the same. Prejudice is a narrow mindedness that encourages hate because of race, religious or political beliefs, or some other reason that is not a reasonable or valid reason. It discourages a person from understanding his or her differences with others and blocks the growth and strength that understanding and acceptance can produce.

The third Ruffian represents greed. Greed is the desire to obtain wealth or power by any means necessary. Greed can manifest itself through thievery, deception, swindling, or any other means which can result in one person or group of persons attaining an unfair advantage over another.

In contrast the three Principle Fellow Crafts collectively represent the attainment of knowledge and the individual's effort to improve oneself by practicing the Masonic tenets of Brotherly love, relief, truth, and morality. They epitomize the effort to battle the three ruffians in defense of good. They

teach us to battle ignorance by gaining a knowledge of how to properly treat and relate to others. They demonstrate that this is not an easy task but a lifelong effort to improve their ability to practice the knowledge we gain. They teach us to battle prejudice by the realization that every person should be treated equally without regard to their race, religious or political belief, wealth, or station in life. Every person should be treated as an individual and judged only for how they live their life and what they give to humanity. They teach us to battle greed by realizing that there are things in life that should be more valuable to us than wealth or power. Honor, integrity, and honesty are invaluable in the battle against evil. The respect we receive from others for possessing and utilizing these qualities will earn an individual the kind of love and respect from others that is more valuable than any amount of money or from the possession of any object.

The three Ruffians demonstrate that the forces of evil are always at work to influence the unsuspecting and the weak, and to recruit them in the battle so that evil can triumph over good and chaos can then rule. They utilize powerful weapons and allurements to influence and win people over to their side and they are always present to capture anyone who might slip. The three Fellow Crafts demonstrate that although the forces of evil are powerful and relentless we can still prevail through perseverance and the diligent practice of virtue.

The last event in this part of our Degree, when the individual receives the last secret of a Master Mason, represents the rebirth of the individual into a life where he is to work through study, contemplation and practice of these principles and virtues to continually improve himself. This practice by the individual is noticed by others and therefore influences and benefits all mankind. Honor, integrity, reputation, and respect is the benefit for the individual when he takes these lessons to heart and practices them in his daily life. The observance of the individual Master Mason practicing these virtues in his daily life will influence others to seek association with us in order that they might learn to improve themselves.

As stated earlier each individual is free to accept or reject these thoughts. I, however, contend that this is a valid assessment of the symbolism of the Hiramic Legend and a reasonable interpretation of how we should utilize the lessons of the Degree. Even if there is disagreement on this interpretation there should be agreement that it does offer thought into the meaning of what we should learn from Masonry.

by Jim Nash

## A Successful 32nd Masonic District Blood & Platelet Drive

Wednesday evening August 18th, the Brethren of the 32nd Masonic District participated in a blood and platelet drive for Brother Alberto Sosa's three year old daughter Karina who has been recently diagnosed with Leukemia. Brother Sosa is a member of Boca-Delray Lodge No. 171 but, the Brethren of Lantana Lodge No. 372 were kind enough to let us set up the donor equipment in their Lodge Room as it is a central location within the District. Lantana Lodge meets at the Lake Worth Scottish Rite and the cooperation received from the Brethren at the Valley was beyond outstanding.

Our District Deputy R.:W.:

Wayne Hansen, the 32nd Masonic District Master Mason's Association, and all the Lodges within the District announced the drive and encourage participation.

Blood Bank Employees stated that the amount of blood and platelets collected exceeded their expectations; better than a high school all day drive. It was an exemplary exam-



ple of Masonry at its finest. Brothers, wives, sons, and daughters as well as friends showed up to donate. At one point all donor machines were occupied and we had to wait for available seating.

When blood bank employees asked how so many donors volunteered; the answer they received was simple, "we're Freemasons, this is what we do when one of our Brothers is

in need, we respond in a positive way".

When Brother Sosa's wife Theresa mentioned how sad it is to see so many young people in a cancer ward receiving chemo or other treatment, we then knew that the District will have to conduct more blood and platelet drives throughout the year and years to come; and not just for our Brethren's loved ones, but for all those who we can possibly help and assist. Think of it Brethren, such a small charitable act, a few minutes of time and yet a child may have the chance of living a healthy - productive life. It doesn't take much planning or time to conduct a drive either, you may like to have one at your District and in turn, help our children in distress. Call you local community blood center and learn how you can help.

Necessary requirements for setting up a drive are simple - an air conditioned environment, room to set up about six portable beds and platelet gathering equipment as well as a few outlets so that power strips can be plugged in.

Submitted by R.:W.: Mike Sinatra

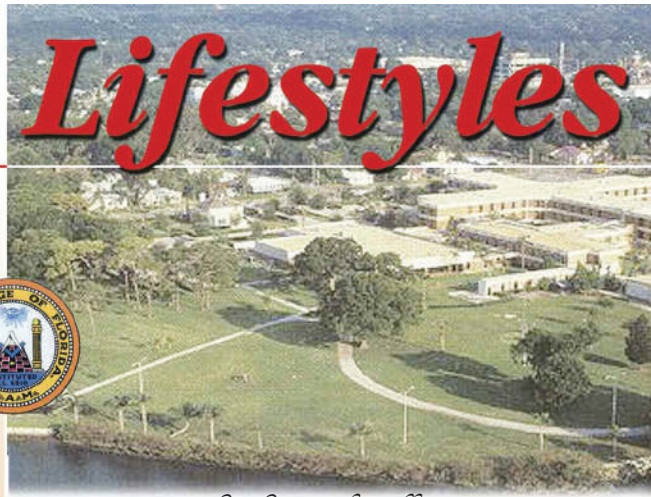
## Day In The Life...

On September 19, 2010, attendees of the monthly Masonic Home Board Meeting had the opportunity to experience a typical day for a Resident of the Masonic Home. In place of the usual report which is read to describe the previous month's recreational activities, a video was made which featured actual Residents participating in various activities. Our very own Residents were the stars of this video and it was obvious how much they enjoy what the Home has to offer. In fact they had so much fun, several scenes had to be edited! If your Lodge is interested in viewing this video, please give us a call at 800.375.2339 and we can send you a copy.

## Masonic Home OF FLORIDA



A TRADITION OF CARING



*On The Shores Of Coffee Pot Bayou*

### First Lady Nancy Martinez's Masonic Home Project



L to R: Nancy Martinez, First Lady of Masonry; Christine Keene, interior designer, Keene Interiors, Tampa.

Our First Lady, Nancy Martinez has been hard at work making plans for her Masonic Home Ladies' Project, which is refurbishing the Masonic Home Board Room/Auditorium.

This room is used daily for Resident activities, entertainment and many other social and community functions. Due to your generosity, Mrs. Martinez is planning to replace carpeting, chairs, lighting, sound system and many other furnishings to keep this room as beautiful a focal point as when it was originally designed over 20 years ago. Please continue giving to this worthwhile project and join us when it is dedicated on Pilgrimage Day, Saturday, March 19, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.



Nancy Martinez has some tough designing decisions to make!



Back row L to R: Jim Edwards, Resident, sponsored by Brandon Lodge No. 114; Arthur Bauman, Resident, Acacia Lodge (PA) No. 355; Donald Shearer, Resident, sponsored by Braidetown Lodge No. 99; Ida Mae Lowery, Resident, sponsored by South Miami Lodge No. 308; Wes Lowery, Resident, sponsored by South Miami Lodge No. 308.

Front row L to R: Jane Stokes, Resident, sponsored by Brotherhood Lodge No. 375; Lola Billberry, Res-

ident, sponsored by Royal Palm Lodge No. 100; Helen Swanker, Resident, sponsored by Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252; Ralph Swanker, Resident, sponsored by Tampa Bay Lodge No. 252; Rosalie Buzik, Resident, sponsored by Cypress Lodge No. 295; Gerald Buzik, Resident, sponsored by Cypress Lodge No. 295.

Not pictured, but playing the piano, Alice Gates, Resident, sponsored by Community Lodge No. 292.

### The Holidays Are Bright At The Masonic Home

On December 7th, the Masonic Home Songbirds put on their annual holiday concert. These active Residents perform many shows throughout the year and work hard to entertain fellow Residents, staff and guests. They sang Christmas carols and a great time was had by all.

During this time of year, when we reflect on those who make our lives special, the Residents of the Masonic Home of Florida would like to express their appreciation to the thousands of men and women across the State who help support their extraordinary home. We wish all of you a very happy and healthy New Year!!



# Welcome



**Grand Lodge of Florida**  
220 North Ocean Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
P.O. Box 1020 • 32201  
Tel: 800.375.2339  
www.glfiamason.org

**Grand Lodge Officers**  
2010 - 2011

**GRAND MASTER**

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

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

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

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN**

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

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN**

**R.: W.: Danny R. Griffith**  
(Orange Park)

**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 Masonic Lifestyles* should be sent to, Lisa Tsotsos, Toll Free at 866-868-6749 or E-Mail: masonichm@aol.com



**From Our Administrator**  
*Greetings To All,*

It is hard to believe 2010 is coming to a close. This a wonderful time to reflect upon how fortunate we are to work and serve such a fine organization with outstanding Residents. Many times, people tell me they admire the work we do. It's always nice to hear, but the rewards our team receives are too numerous to mention. You may have heard me say that the ultimate compliment we get is when a family member tells us they sleep better knowing their loved one is here. Or when a Resident returns from a hospital stay and says its great to be home where their caregivers know exactly how to care for them. Everyday our team provides individualized care and service that shows their dedication. Perhaps it's having a Resident's coffee ready just the way they like it, or making sure they treat all Residents with dignity and respect throughout their lives here. There are comments we receive from Residents that include the only regret they have is not moving here sooner. These are just a few of the gifts we receive that are priceless. Of course, the key to providing this level of care lies in the ability to have the right tools. The Grand Lodge of Florida has always given us the resources and opportunity to make a difference in the Resident's lives. For that, we express our most sincere appreciation.

This issue is loaded with special events which occur daily. Individuals, Lodges, Districts, Appendant Bodies, Volunteers and Community Members contribute to making our Home outstanding. We always attempt to recognize their efforts, but know that many un-sung heroes exist in the State of Florida and across the Country too. We often receive calls to ask what can be done to assist the Home. Sometimes there are groups like the Suncoast Masters and Wardens of the 20th and 21st Masonic Districts who take the

initiative and just keep on going all year long with various fundraisers and events which benefit the Masonic Home. This time of year, we will open an envelope with a check and note telling us to continue taking great care of the Residents or buy something on the wish list. Big or small, these gifts of your time and resources are the reason this Home has been in existence since 1919.

We hope you are able to join us for the Annual Pilgrimage Day on Saturday, March 19, 2011. It will be a fun-filled day with the dedication of the First Lady's Special Masonic Home Project at 11:00 a.m. The Residents can't wait!

As you can see, the Masonic Lifestyles newsletter has been consolidated with the Florida Mason. This will help us to conserve the expenses of production and mailing. Please continue to give us your feedback on what this newsletter and the Masonic Home can do to meet your needs now or in the future.

Wishing You And Yours A Happy And Healthy New Year,  
Lisa Tsotsos  
Administrator  
masonichm@aol.com

## Masonic Home of Florida Wish List



The Masonic Home of Florida would like to thank all of you who have made contributions to this wish list in the past year. Through your generosity we have received many items.

**We can still use the following:**

- **REFINISHING OF 20 CHAIRS IN RESIDENT'S KITCHENETTES** Approximately \$105 per chair.
- **NEW FULL SIZE REFRIGERATOR FOR 2ND FLOOR RESIDENTIAL CENTER EAST HALL** Approximate cost \$500
- **NEW CARPETING FOR 2ND FLOOR RESIDENTIAL CENTER LOBBY AREA** Approximate cost \$1,500
- **NEW DESK FOR 2ND FLOOR RESIDENTIAL CENTER LOBBY/NURSING STATION** Approximate cost \$500

Please Join Us For  
The Annual Masonic Home  
Pilgrimage Day On Saturday,  
March 19, 2011  
from 10a.m.-2p.m.  
Hope To See You There!

## Greetings From Masonic Home Residents To The Grand Master



While discussing M.: W.: J. Dick Martinez's Installation in June 2010, the Residents of the Masonic Home thought they would send their best wishes for a successful year. They could not think of any better way to show their dedication and respect to M.: W.: Martinez than to enjoy a great cigar in his honor. Of course, theirs were chocolate and delicious!! You could hear the laughter all the way down the hall.



Back Row L to R: Elsie Weldy, Resident, Sponsored By Composite Lodge No. 293; Tom Cartwright, Resident, sponsored by Punta Gorda No. 115; Jim Edwards, Resident, sponsored by Brandon Lodge No. 114.

Front Row L to R: Rose Dankert, Resident, sponsored by Placid Lodge No. 282; Richard Dankert, sponsored by Placid Lodge No. 282 (decd.); Clifford Stiffler, Resident, sponsored by Sailless Hills Lodge (PA) No. 776.



Frank Albright, Resident, sponsored by Palm Bay Lodge No. 397.



Wes Lowery, Resident, sponsored by South Miami Lodge No. 308.



Norma Foster, Resident, sponsored by Clearwater Lodge No. 127.



## Dedicated Members Attended The Annual Grand Lodge Communication

L to R: David Neveitt, Member of Elmer O. Smith Lodge No. 307; Lee Gibbins, Member of Pineland Lodge No. 86 and Resident of the Masonic Home, Lloyd "Mac" McTighe, Member of Middleburg Lodge No. 107 and Resident of the Masonic Home, Bob Robertson, Member of Elmer O. Smith Lodge No. 307 and Maintenance Director of The Masonic Home.



## Second Time Around At The Masonic Home

**B**rother Earl Irely, Member of St. Petersburg Lodge No. 139, Resided at the Masonic Home of Florida not once, but twice! Earl Irely first entered the Home in 1934 as a child with his Brother and Sister. He returned to live here at age 84. Sadly, Mr. Irely passed away not long after re-entering the Home as an adult.

Our Brother was an inspiration to all who knew him and was proud of his Masonic Home as is evident in this photo. We miss you Earl.



## Easter Celebration At The Masonic Home

**O**nce again the 25th Masonic District put on a wonderful Easter celebration for the Residents of the Masonic Home. This special day included an Easter Egg Hunt.

*Shown here is Resident Rosalie Buzik being assisted by a very dedicated young man volunteering his time from the 25th District. Thank you to all those who make this event a success!*



## A Wonderful Gift To The Masonic Home

**T**he Masonic Home would like to thank Wade Landrum, Member of Shamrock Lodge No. 268 for donating this beautiful Square and Compass which he made for us to display in the Masonic Home Museum. Thank you for thinking of us Wade!

"PINK LODGE  
FEB. 11, 2011"

## Not A Bad View Huh?

**B**en Watson, Resident, sponsored Lake Lodge No. 72, enjoys the view of Coffee Pot Bayou. After living 100 wonderful years and dedicating his life to his Family and the Fraternity, he deserves this view from his back porch!



## We Are Pleased To Announce A New **OUTREACH** Program & **WEBSITE** Serving Members Throughout Florida!

Whether you have a need for residential services on our St. Petersburg campus, or in your local community, please call the Masonic Home of Florida toll free at (866) 868-6749 or go to [www.MasonicHomeOfFlorida.org](http://www.MasonicHomeOfFlorida.org) for assistance with aging services.

**M**asonic Lifestyles is a complimentary semi-annual newsletter produced by the Masonic Home of Florida and the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Florida. Story requests, comments or suggestions for future issues may be e-mailed directly to: [masonichm@aol.com](mailto:masonichm@aol.com) or mailed to:

Masonic Home of Florida, Attention: Lisa Tsotsos • 3201 1st Street NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704

The Board of Trustees of the Masonic Home cordially invites you to attend monthly meetings at the Masonic Home, 11:00 A.M. in the Board Room. Chapel service starts at 10:00 A.M. Jan. 16th, Feb. 13th, March 19th Pilgrimage Day, March 20th, April 17th, The May meeting will be held in Orlando in conjunction with the Grand Lodge Communication Date to be announced.

To submit an article for the next issue of *The Florida Mason*, please contact Larry Scott at Grand Lodge, 904-354-2339, or via email: [larry.scott@gflmason.org](mailto:larry.scott@gflmason.org). The deadline for the Summer Issue is March 31, 2011.

## Halloween 2010 A Pretty Scary Crew



Hard to believe these are some of the most dedicated health care professionals who are entrusted with caring for our Residents right? Well they are!



L to R: Diana Butler, Sheryl McKesson, Ramona Cruz, Tami Vashon, Maryanne Mello, Donna Livingston, Diana McClelland, Marge Cozrav



Each Halloween the adorable kindergarten class from Northshore Elementary School parade through the board room to display their costumes for Residents.



Who is really in charge of nursing services? We'll let you guess!

L to R: Nora Pearson, Director of Nursing or Ben Watson, "Acting" Director of Nursing? Tami Vashon looks on in amazement.



## A Visit From The Grand Master

On July 16, 2010, Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez and First Lady Nancy, spent time with Residents discussing what was on their minds. This afternoon provided a great opportunity for Residents to hear directly from the Grand Master and First Lady what their goals for the year included and for them to hear directly from Residents. We also shared some laughs together!



## It Would Not Be October Without Christmas Right?

On October 16, 2010, the wonderful Masters and Wardens Association of Dade County arrived again with outstanding gifts and cheer for the Residents. This event is one of the highlights each year and 2010 did not disappoint! We appreciate all the men and women from the 34th and 35th Masonic Districts who put so much time and effort into this special occasion.



## Greetings From The Teddy Bear Krewe



Many wonderful things occur as a result of the Annual Masonic Home Pilgrimage Day, but this year we had an extra special one. We received a call from the Teddy Bear Krewe offering to visit Residents and bring them their own teddy bears. What a great time and we hope this becomes an annual event!



## ADMISSION PLANS

### Lifecare Plan

This traditional plan is available to any Master Mason who becomes a member of a Florida Lodge prior to the age of 70. He must be a member in good standing of a Florida Lodge for at least ten years and continually for the last three. The wife or widow of a Master Mason is eligible for residency based on his membership. Contact your Lodge or the Masonic Home for an application. Upon completion, the application is signed by the Worshipful Master and Secretary. It is then presented to the District Deputy Grand Master for review. The application is then forwarded to the Admissions Committee, Board of Trustees and Grand Master for final approval. This process takes approximately 30-60 days. Dual members are also eligible.

Under the Lifecare Plan, assets owned by the Resident such as property, bank accounts, stocks, social security, pensions, etc., are deposited with the Masonic Home. These assets are then converted to cash to establish a Resident Maintenance Account. Each month, this account is debited to cover the cost of care. Residents retain 10% of any liquid assets, initially and subsequently, in excess of \$10,000 for personal use. When assets are exhausted, the Masonic Home continues to provide care throughout the lifetime of the Resident regardless of his/her ability to pay.



### Pay As You Go (Private Pay)

In May of 2005, the Grand Lodge of Florida approved Private Pay admissions for Florida and non-Florida Masons. This plan provides an opportunity for Florida and non-Florida Master Masons and their wives or widows to retain control of their assets while enjoying all the Masonic Home has to offer. Residents pay a three month deposit and \$3,650\* monthly for Assisted Living and \$6,083\* monthly for Skilled Nursing care. Most fees and services are included except medication. For couples entering the Masonic Home, the first person pays this monthly fee and the second person fee is \$600\* monthly. Applicants for Pay As You Go should get in touch with the Masonic Home directly to begin the admission process which can take as little as one week for approval.

\*Rates subject to change.

## Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial

The Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial is a monument located in the annex of the Gettysburg National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Built by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, it commemorates Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Addison Armistead entrusting Union Captain Henry H. Bingham with his personal effects, most notably a pocket watch, on the third day of the Battle of Gettysburg, during Pickett's Charge.

Pickett's Charge was an assault upon the Union Army center on the last day of the Battle of Gettysburg. The charge, the high tide of the Confederate States of America, was repulsed. Confederate General Armistead, under George Pickett's command, personally led his men up the hill to the Union position.

Armistead was shot twice. Severely wounded, and fearing that his personal ef-

fects would be stolen by Union soldiers, he "gave a Masonic sign asking for assistance". Union Captain Bingham, an aide to Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, a personal friend of Armistead, then came to his aid as he lay wounded; Armistead, Bingham, and Hancock were all Freemasons. After ensuring Armistead that his possessions would be sent to his family, particularly his pocket watch, Bingham took Armistead to a field hospital, where Armistead died two days later on the George Spangler farm.

The monument's sculptor was Ron Tunison of Cairo, New York, who was himself a Freemason. The sculpture is made of polychrome bronze.

The statue was dedicated by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on August 21, 1993.



## The new dress code for the GM on his last Official Visit to his District.



Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge, located at 14020 Marguerite Drive in Madeira Beach, presented its Annual Ernest J. Freeman Jr. Memorial Scholarship to Mr. Brett Harris Thacher and Mr. Jeremiah David Miller, both graduating Seniors at Seminole High School in Seminole. Mr. Thacher will be attending college in the Fall at University of South Florida in Tampa and Mr. Miller will be attending University of Central Florida.

Ernest J. Freeman, Jr., Master of Gulf Beach Lodge in 1984, had a vision. This vision was to create a scholarship program that would grant deserving local students funds to assist in their college tuition. It was also his vision to create a program which would be self-perpetuating thereby being a source of assistance well into the future. After the passing of Ernest Freeman the Scholarship Program was renamed in his memory and has helped support four college students each year since its inception. The annual scholarship winners receive \$2,000.00 to assist in their college or university expenses.

## Englewood Free Spaghetti Supper



Englewood Masonic Lodge held its 6th Annual Free Community Spaghetti Supper on November 12th. People attending were asked to bring canned or dry goods to stock the Four Square Church Food Bank. W. Brother Bob Holland solicited \$1,200 in donations from the community. We gave over \$1,300 in food to the food bank.



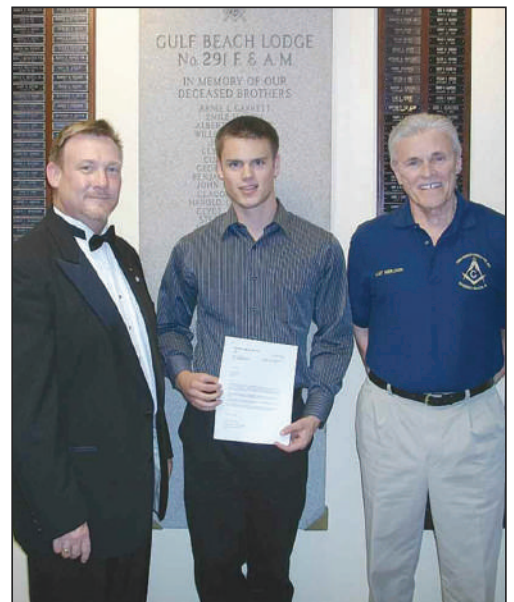
## "Masons Always Arise to the Occasion"

The Grand Master's theme this year is "Masons Always Arise to the Occasion" and the Brothers of Pearl of the West Lodge No. 146, F. A. & M., Siloam Lodge No. 399, F. & A. M. Lodges, and with the help of a Brother of Brotherhood Lodge No. 375, F. & A. M., did just that. On August 21st Siloam Lodge had a short-fused issue of Raising a terminally ill Brother before he left for medical care up North in Michigan. Even though Pearl of the West was dark for the rest of the month a team was put together in short order by Brother Henry Eichner, W. M.: Ray Trahan of Pearl of the West and P.M. Don Hixon of Siloam Lodge. The Master Mason Degree was performed on August 23rd at 10:00 a.m. The Brothers who came together from Pearl, Siloam and other Lodges in the area to Raise this Brother proved the Grand Master's theme to be true, and this event is an inspirational story for all the participating Lodges and our Fraternity.



## Gulf Beach Masonic Lodge Presents Scholarship Award

Article and photo by Howard Knapp



## Wesconnett Honors 70 Year Mason and Windows



L to R: Dennis Green, High Priest and Prophet, Morocco Temple Shrine, Aubrey C. Abrams, R.:W.: Clarence R. Thompson, III, P.D.D.G.M., W.: Bert Yeaton, Jr., Worshipful Master, Wesconnett Lodge

At noon on Saturday, October 30th, Wesconnett Lodge No. 297 in Jacksonville held a luncheon to honor a distinguished Mason and its Lodge widows.

Brother Aubrey Clinton Abrams was recognized for his 70 Years as a Mason. He was Raised on August 28, 1940, in Siebert Lodge located in Gatun in the Canal Zone. He affiliated with Wesconnett Lodge, at the time of its founding in 1951. Brother Abrams was presented with his 70 Year Certificate and lapel pin by R.:W.: Clarence R. Thompson III, P.D.D.G.M.. Brother Abrams thanked the Lodge for the honor he had received and related some of the Masonic events in his life. R.:W.: Thompson then led the Masons present in according Brother Abrams with the Public Grand Honors.

At the same luncheon, Wesconnett Lodge was pleased to honor four of its Masonic Widows. The Worshipful Master, Bert Yeaton Jr., recognized each and presented each with a small love gift from the Lodge.

Good food, good fellowship, and good fun was enjoyed by all.

## Annual Widow's Dinner

Submitted by Howard W. Knapp P.D.D.G.M., PDI, Secretary

Gulf Beach Lodge No. 291 held its annual widow's dinner on Thursday September 30, 2010, at the Masonic Temple. A wonderful dinner was prepared by Junior Warden, Fernando Salazar. After dinner the five widows present were honored, as was the memory of their departed husbands. The Masonic Record of each of their husbands was read and each widow was given an opportunity to say a few words. W.: Tom Willmot presented each widow with a Lodge 60th Anniversary coin and a widow's pin and certificate. It was a very moving event.



## 9th Annual Golf Tourney a Success! Article Submitted by W.: Billy Garrett, Jr., P.M.

Photo Courtesy of R.:W.: Chris Schlenker, P.D.D.G.M.



Clearwater, FL. On Saturday, September 25th, the 9th Annual Golf Tournament of the SunCoast Masters and Wardens Association of the 20th & 21st Masonic Districts along with twenty (20) guests was held at Airco Golf Course, Clearwater, FL. Participating were fifty-nine (59) players and twenty-four (24) hole sponsors in this benefit - charity fundraiser, with the proceeds going to the William S.

O'Brien Scholarship Fund and the Masonic Home of Florida. After the tournament, a pig roast consisting of potato salad, baked beans, and coleslaw were enjoyed by all. There were prizes awarded to the participants of longest drive, closet to the pin, putting contest and best team play.

## Bushnell Lodge No. 30's Three Most Recent Master Masons



Wor. Denney Bostic, Worshipful Master, Bro. Robert Baker, Bro. John Pearce, Bro. Michael Smith and Wor. Tony Vaughan, Lodge Instructor. Bushnell Lodge No. 30, Bushnell (Sumter County), FL

## Gainesville Charitable Foundation Masonic Scholarship

Each year the Gainesville Charitable Foundation, Inc., offers a \$1,000.00 Masonic Scholarship at the University of Florida.

The scholarship is awarded only to a Florida Mason or to the relative of a Florida Mason, and we usually give at least one per year. For 2010 we had no eligible applicants and so we did not award one.

If possible, could you send something out so that all Florida Lodges know about this opportunity for the members, children or grand children or other relatives of Florida Masons who attend the University of Florida.

When an eligible person applies, the University simply gives them \$1000.00 to help with their expensis while a UF student. All a student has to do is check with the scholarship office at the University to apply.

Fraternal Regards,

Milledge Murphey, 2010 President  
Gainesville Charitable Foundation

**"PINK LODGE FEB. 11, 2011"**

## Busy October at Callahan Masonic Lodge

**Six new Brothers Raised to Master Mason during Degree on Oct. 12, 2010:**



Front Row (left to right): Eddy Edwards, Krist Bennett, and Allen Personnett; Second Row (Left to right): Brian Sebastian, Gary Gaskill, and Brian Fair

**60 Years a Mason Norman "Norm" Froitzheim**



L to R: Past Master John Page; Norman Froitzheim; Paul Potrok (Sr. Deacon)

During a ceremony on Oct. 19, 2010, Norman Froitzheim was recognized for his 60 years of membership in Callahan Masonic Lodge No. 32. He was presented a 60 Year Lapel Pin and Certificate from the Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Florida by Past Master John Page. Brother Froitzheim was Initiated on July 20, 1948, Passed to Fellow Craft on January 18, 1949 and Raised a Master Mason on February 1, 1949. When Brother Froitzheim became a Mason, he was a young sailor serving in the U.S. Navy of which he went on to serve a distinguished military career.

**Three new Brothers Initiated Entered Apprentice Masons during Degree on Oct. 19, 2010.**



Front Row L to R: Jack Tucker (Sr. Warden); Herbert Ray; John Beck, Darrell Lane; Kevin Reintz (Master during Degree)

## Cape Coral Masons and Boy Scouts Forge New Partnership and Paint Masonic Temple

Submitted by Worshipful Master Herm Cardona, Cape Coral Lodge No. 367

Photos by Tara Cardona, First Lady of Cape Coral Lodge

Members of Cape Coral Lodge No. 367 and Cape Coral Boy Scouts of America Troop No. 4 on April 17 and 18, 2010, jointly undertook the painting of Cape Coral Masonic Temple. The Boy Scout Troop went looking for a new sponsor (chartering organization) last March after losing their previous sponsor, a Methodist Church which could no longer accommodate them after 40 years. Cape Coral Masons welcomed them with open arms.

Worshipful Master Herm Cardona learned of their plight while attending the Troop 4 Eagle Court of Honor of February 27, 2010 - convened for the purpose of investing Boy Scout Andrew Fletcher with the prestigious title, rank, and honor of Eagle Scout - which he attended for the purpose of presenting a plaque on behalf of the Cape Coral and Pine Island Masons.

Upon return to the Lodge the Worshipful Master presented the Troops situation to the Brethren of Cape Coral Lodge who voted unanimously to become the Troop's new sponsors. An out-of-use small dining room/storage room was assigned to the Scouts, who turned it into a beautiful Scout's Lounge, painted and furnished by the Scouts and their parents. The lounge is now also used by the Masons for informal committee meetings and catechism proficiency training.

Coincidentally, (if you believe in such a thing) Cape Coral Lodge No. 367 was getting ready for its own 40th Anniversary Celebration, which was to be held on April 24, 2010. Feeling that the Masons had rolled out the red carpet for them, the Scouts, Scout Masters, and their parents, offered to paint the whole building in preparation for the Lodge's 40th



Anniversary Celebration. The building was a faded beige color and had not been painted in over 10 years. Thanks to the hard work and cooperation of the Scout and Masonic families, Cape Coral Masonic Temple looks like new! With newly forged bonds of friendship, Masons and Boy Scouts both look forward to a long lasting and rewarding relationship, working together to create a better society by making good men, or young men, better.



## Englewood's Rainbow at 2010 Pioneer Day Parade

Submitted by R.:W.: Gary Schroeder, Public Relations Chairman, Zone 8



Waiting Turn - To Enter - The Parade Route



Awesome, View of the Architectural! Design!



Englewood Rainbow Assembly No. 38 - Girls - Convertible: Top Left: Jessica Budwitz, Left Rear/Setting Inside: Jara Adams, Top Right: Shawanna Thompson, Left Rear/Setting - Inside: Kori Van Gundy The Assistant Mother Advisor - Driving - Anne Marie Budwitz.

On Labor Day, September 6, 2010, Englewood Masonic Lodge No. 360 participated in the Annual Pioneer Days Parade.

The Lodge entered the District 27 Child I.D Unit driven by R.:W.: Gene Jeffers, Zone 8 Chairman, along with Bro's Mike Misemer, J.W., and William Henley, Sr. Steward.

A Masonic Float depicting King Solomon's Temple, with the walls and pillars, was designed and crafted by Scott Budwitz, S.D., and his wife, Anne Marie, and assembled along with Brothers from Englewood Lodge No. 360; W.:M.: Martin Horowitz, R.:W.: Gene Jeffers, W.: Mike Cripps, Paul Alvarez and Englewood Rainbow Assembly No. 38.

The Englewood Rainbow Assembly also participated in the Parade with their white convertible driven by the Assistant Mother Advisor - Anne Marie Budwitz. They distributed over

100 Rainbow Pamphlets along the parade route with the assistance of the No. 360 - Assistant Chaplain, Paul Alvarez and his wife, Krystal.

There were over one hundred vendors, great bands/music, food, lots of free games and prizes for the kids, etc.

It was amazing how the Sheriff's Department, Masons, Rainbow, various clubs, and community came together on such a very hot and humid day, but everyone worked together and had a great time!

This was one of the largest Pioneer Day Parades they ever had!



Child I.D. Trailer was driven by R.:W.: Gene Jeffers - Zone 8 - Chairman, along with Bro's Mike Misemer, J.W. & William Henley, S.Steward.

## Arlington Lodge Raises Five New Master Masons

On Wednesday, October 20, 2010, Arlington Lodge No. 309 Raised five young men as new Master Masons. Some of these new Masons began their Masonic journey months earlier, on July 13th. Pictured here were the new Master Masons at the end of the evening after the Degree.



Shown from left to right in the first row were new Brothers Anthony Bennett, Daniel S. Cooper, Mathew Harrington, Joshua T. Wilson, and Jeffrey M. Barrett. Next to them was John Barber, who traveled to Jacksonville and Arlington Lodge No. 309 as good friend, to participate in the Degree.

Seen behind the new Masons, were the Officers and some of the other Brothers who participated in the Degree. Noticed in the center of the back rows was Charles R. Cooper, P.M., who conferred a great part of the Degree work, and who is the grandfather of Daniel S. Cooper, one of the new Masons. Standing on the left of W.: Brother Charles Cooper was R.: W.: Rudin J. "Rudy" Boatright, W. Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida. Seen second from the right in the back row (with beard), was W.: Brother James Holderfield, IV, Worshipful Master of Arlington Lodge No. 309.

## Raising the Roof!

Washington Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M. in Quincy FL, recently had its roof replaced, and while this may sound like a routine occurrence for most Lodges, it is proof positive that through hard work and diligence to achieve a common goal that anything is possible.

The story of the new roof started about 10 years ago when the Officers of the Lodge recognized that the roof was in need of repair. But without sufficient funds to replace it, the decision was made to do spot repairs until such a time as the Lodge was able to afford to replace the entire roof.

The Brothers held Chicken Pilau Dinners twice a year to assist in raising the funds and recently switched to smoking Boston Butt pork roasts, one of the best fundraisers to date. The Lodge tightened its grip on the budget to save every penny possible and also decided to rent the dining hall out and soon had some regular tenants, including the Woodmen of the World and a small Church, both of which continue to rent from the Lodge today.

Guided by the Treasurer and Pilau Master W.: Alvin Pickles, the Lodge continued to save its funds by investing in CD's. On April 27th, 2010, the Brothers of Washington Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M. decided that the time was right to replace the roof and voted to proceed with the project.

The solidarity and single-mindedness of the Lodge as a whole, enabled this small rural Lodge to achieve its long term goal of a new roof.



## Changing the Face of Medicine

The Masonic Charitable Gift Annuity Program is a Grand Lodge program that needs to be promoted to the Craft. With the current state of our economy, many Brethren and spouses may have a keen interest in securing a guaranteed fixed income for life. If they act before the end of the year they will receive a tax deduction and partial tax free income.

We would appreciate your running this flyer and the attached year end appeal if space permits in your publication.

To view a short movie about the Masonic Medical go to: [www.impactmovie.com](http://www.impactmovie.com)

Sincerely and fraternally,  
 Ronald P. Kamp,  
 Director of Development and Communications  
 Cardiac Research Institute  
 Masonic Medical Research Laboratory  
 2150 Bleecker Street  
 Utica, NY 13501-1787  
 315.735.2217, ext 127  
[www.mmrl.edu](http://www.mmrl.edu)

### Will you have enough Retirement Income?

Let us put numbers on the fact that the price of common investments, Creative Life Investors are beginning to think about retirement and the appropriate steps necessary to secure their long-term financial security and that of their family. There are beginning to realize that government sources of income such as social security, pensions, savings and investments may not be enough and are seeking a higher rate of return. Others choose more than their regular living retirement.

SINGLE ANNUITY ASSURY	
Age	Rate*
90+	9.3%
85	8.1%
80	7.4%
75	6.3%
70	5.7%
65	5.3%

\*Annualized with 10% tax rate - average before making gift or more that you are in compliance with the law. For more information and a free personal charitable gift annuity illustration contact our Financial Services Department at [development@mmrl.edu](mailto:development@mmrl.edu) or call (315) 735-2217, ext 127

## Charity Feeds Families

by W.: Alfred Smith, Hibiscus Lodge No. 275, Miami

On August 7, 2010, Hibiscus Lodge No. 275 in Miami, FL, volunteered at the Community Partnership for the Homeless (CPHI) located in Downtown Miami. CPHI is a charity not-for-profit that serves to accommodate homeless families and prepares them for the working world by providing shelter, food, clothing, and social work services for a period of three to six months.

The Brothers from Hibiscus arrived at 9 a.m. where some prepared food while others cleaned and prepared the dining area. During lunch time, the Brothers served food and drinks like a well organized production line filling plates to the families in need. Overall it was a morning filled with Charity and brotherhood and the folks at the CPHI were very thankful to the volunteers. S.: W.: Alfred Sarria, coordinator of the event for the Lodge stated, "Many of the Residents living at the site personally thanked us and Hibiscus for taking time to help them out." Hibiscus Lodge No. 275 is coordinating a charity drive between Lodge Brothers and reaching out to nearby schools to donate clothing, school uniforms, towels, sheets, furniture, and books for CPHI.

Hibiscus Lodge No. 275, makes it a point in their yearly events to include some form of community outreach. It's their tra-

dition to really encourage the new, younger Masons to do charitable work in their progress. Masons of all Degrees arrived for the event and walked away with a positive spirit in their hearts demonstrating the influence of Freemasonry in the Community.

"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal." Brother Albert Pike

For more information please visit: [www.hibiscuslodge.com](http://www.hibiscuslodge.com) or [www.cphi.org](http://www.cphi.org)



L to R: Bros. Jean-Aime Medici, Michael Carozza, Michael Araguez, Gaston Rossato, Jean-Paul d'Arbelles & Husnu Ceylon



L to R: Bros. Jean-Aime Medici, J.: S.: Gaston Rossato, Michael Carrozzo, Kareem Zarwi, Erick Rodriguez, S.: W.: Michael Araguez



**Golden GREETINGS**

Few laboratories have had as global an impact on the world of cardiology as the Cardiac Research Institute at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. You or a loved one most likely have benefited tangibly from these advancements. Our research into such problems as atrial fibrillation, life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias, sudden infant death syndrome, and sudden cardiac death remain a top priority.

Thanks to molecular genetics and molecular biology, we have arrived at a new era of discovery where treatment of disease is not based on symptoms presented but rather on the root cause of the disease. How aggressively we proceed with our research depends on our base of financial support. Only through a strong and sustained investment in medical research will scientists have the capability to design better and more radical treatments and cures in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

During this season of hope, and celebration, please take a moment to count your blessings and extend a helping hand to ensure the promise of healthier tomorrow through medical research. Your tax-deductible gift, large or small, will provide the most valuable gift of all... the gift of life. Please visit [www.mmrl.edu](http://www.mmrl.edu) to make a secure, online donation or mail a check payable to Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, 2150 Bleecker St., Utica, NY 13501. [jamp@mmrl.edu](mailto:jamp@mmrl.edu)

## Child ID Program at Don Brewer Early Learning Center



Pictured here, under the 11th & 12th Districts banner are the Child ID Team members who participated on this day. Seated in front, was R.:W.: C. Alan McQuaig, P.D.D.G.M., Child ID Program Zone 3 Chairman. Standing from left to right were: Tony C. Gagarin, Raymond D. Ware, Jr.; Randy Burkett, and Antonio "Tony" Chavez, Masonic Child ID Program District Committeeman, District 11.

The Masonic Child Identification Team from the 11th and 12th Districts conducted a program on July 15, 2010, at the Don Brewer Early Learning Center. The Brewer Learning Center is located in the same complex as the Jacksonville Children's Commission in Jacksonville.

## Sad Night At Woodstock Lodge No. 313

On September 7, 2010, one of the most Dedicated Members of Woodstock Park Lodge No. 313, F & A. M. stepped down as Treasurer after 19 years. R.:W.: Carl L. Helbert served in every appointed and elected office of Woodstock Park Lodge since becoming a Master Mason in 1957.

He replaced Ernest Prince as District Instructor in 1968, served M.:W.: Carvey E. Webb as District Deputy Grand Master in 1969. In 1997 he served the Craft again as Senior Grand Deacon for M.:W.: Samuel E. Cowan

Carl decided in August to retire as Treasurer after serving in that capacity since 1992, a period of 19 years. W.: William S. Fowler presented Carl with a Resolution making him Treasurer Emeritus of Woodstock Park Lodge No. 313.



## Woodstock Park Honors DeMolay Chapter

By William S. Fowler, Worshipful Master

At our Stated Communication held on September 7, 2010, Woodstock Park Lodge No. 313, F & A. M. honored four members of Albert J. Russell DeMolay Chapter for outstanding Community Service.

During the summer months AJR assisted our Lodge on several occasions in cleaning, painting, and repairing our classrooms. They did this willingly and were a credit to their youth organization. It was a pleasure to work with them. We would certainly welcome them back at any time.



## Perpetual Friends Support Hayward Lodge No. 45

Hayward Lodge No. 45 named five Ladies as Perpetual Friends of the Lodge. The certificates, that were bought by their husbands, guarantee the Lodge a yearly income for the life of the Lodge. The awarding of the Certificates was combined with the Official Visit of the District Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Robert L. Gentry at the open part of the stated meeting on July 6th, 2010.

Following a presentation by the Chairman of the Perpetual Membership Committee for District Nine, Right Worshipful Don Zolonz spoke of the advantage of these memberships and awarded certificates to Carolyn Tufts, wife

of Honorary Member Jack Tufts, and Joanne Mott, wife of Past District Deputy Grand Master Don Mott.

Absent from the picture is Char Steele, wife of Past Master George Steele, Diane Williams, wife of Past District Deputy Grand Master Alton Williams, Jr. and Evon Owen, wife of Bill Owen, long time Secretary of the Lodge.

Chairman Zolonz continued to explain the importance of all the Perpetual Membership categories and encouraged all to participate for the benefit of the Lodge.

## Support a School

Worshipful Master Samuel C. Morgan and R.:W.: Kenneth K. Eichorn, Secretary, of Okaloosa Lodge No. 312 traveled to Plew Elementary School to present a check for \$200.00 to Mrs. Louise Carrier to assist her in providing for the needs of her Second Grade Class.



L to R: R.:W.: Eichorn, Mrs. Carrier, and Worshipful Master Morgan

## Junior Grand Warden's Homecoming for R.:W.: Danny R. Griffith

The 11th & 12th Masonic Districts hosted the Junior Grand Warden's Homecoming for R.:W.: Danny R. Griffith on Saturday, August 7, 2010, at the Morocco Shrine Center in Jacksonville, Florida. The decorations and attire for the evening followed a 1950's theme, with business dress optional.

The Master of Ceremonies was M.:W.: Brother Elmer Coffman, PGM, Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida. Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez, M.:W.: Grand Master of Masons of Florida, and most of his Grand Lodge Officers were there. A fine dinner and good time were enjoyed by all.

A) Shown here, coming down the aisle at the entrance of the Grand Officers, were R.:W.: Danny Griffith, Junior Grand Warden, and Mrs. Griffith.

B) Shown, next at the head table (l. to r.) were: Mrs. Griffith; R.:W.: Danny Griffith, J.:G.:W.:, and Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez, M.:W.: Grand Master of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida.

C) Also seen here together were: Most Worshipful J. Dick Martinez, M.:W.: G.M. and Right Worshipful Jim J. Harris, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Florida, before the dinner.

A great turnout of Brothers and Ladies enjoyed a wonderful evening.



"Masons Always Rise To The Occasion"

"PINK LODGE FEB. 11, 2011"



# The Florida Mason

The Official Newsletter of The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida

Volume 3, Issue 2



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## Welcome to the Grand Lodge of Florida



## Special Double Feature

Beginning this issue, in the Centerspread, you will find the *Masonic Lifestyle Magazine*. We will keep you up-to-date on current events in and around the Masonic Home inside each issue of *The Florida Mason*.

**"Masons Always Rise To The Occasion"**