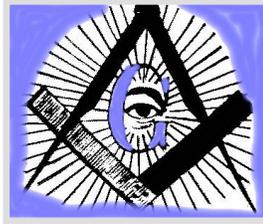


TRESTLEBOARD MARCH 6026 A.L.

DeSoto Lodge No.105 F&AM
P.O. Box 216
Riverview, FL 33568-0216



Non- Profit Bulk Rate
Permit No. 4
Riverview, FL



Trestleboard



De Soto LODGE NO. 105 F.&A.M.

10801 De Soto Rd.

Riverview, Florida 33569

RIVERVIEW, FLORIDA 33569

MARCH 2026 VOL. MMXXVI NO. 3



MAKING MASONS SINCE 5889 A.L.





Desoto Lodge No.105 Officers for 2026




Worshipful Master
∴ Joel Sparnon
704-779-0730



Senior Warden
Tony Garcia
860-625-4557



Junior Warden
Paul Evancoe
240-888-1468



Treasurer
R∴W∴ Steve Williams
813-743-5739



Chaplain
Russell Gavlak
603-566-8710



Secretary
W∴ Troy DiVito
813-598-7087



Senior Deacon
Mark Barthle
813-695-3502



Junior Deacon
Adrian Porrata
813-597-6813



Sr. Steward
Steve Maslin
610-476-7130



Lodge Instructor
R∴W∴ John Grey



Jr. Steward
Richard Resto
516-790-5375



Tyler
Oscar Griffis
813-493-3768



Historian
W∴ Steve Wilson
813-758-6174



Marshall
W∴ Daniel Allen
813-600-7540



TRESTLEBOARD MARCH 6026 A.L.

DESOTO HONOR ROLL of PAST MASTERS

* =Deceased + = Past DDGM

1888-.....	B.N.Mathes*	1978-.....	M. Beardsley +/*
1889-.....	A.H.Meeks*	1979-.....	D.R. Packard*
.....	Lodge first met	1980-.....	W.B. Ellis 33°*
.....	in the Meeks Store	1981-.....	E.E. Oglethorpe*
1890-.....	B.N.Mathes*	1982-.....	J.D. Fowler*
1891-.....	O.P.Buzbee*	1983-.....	G.J. Davis
1892-.....	L. Buckholtz*/+	1984-.....	W.J.Wiggins*
1893-.....	J.R.Brooker*	1985-.....	G.W.Fears*
1894-1913-...	Dr G.H.Symes*/+	1986-.....	A.E.Baker*
1914-1915-.....	B.H.Emerson *	1987-.....	J.M.Williams
1916-1917-.....	L.G.Scotland *	1988-.....	R.S.Varney*
1918-.....	J.W.Williams *	1989-.....	R. "Gene" Horne*
1919-1920-.....	E.P.Blanton *	1990-.....	J.H.McDaniel
1921-.....	F.Ray Hearn *	1991-.....	R.M.Hardy*
1922-1925-.....	W.T.Williams */+	1992-1993.....	E.L.Swilley, Jr.*
1926-.....	J.E.McLean Sr. *	1994-.....	T.A.Berry
1927-.....	A.Kirkpatrick *	1995-.....	F.R.Hudson*
1928-.....	J.W. McLean *	1996-.....	D.M.Little
1929-.....	D.H.Williams *	1997-.....	RW:F.E.Lowe+*
1930-1931.....	E.J.Bryant *	1998-.....	R.E.Kennedy*
1932-1934.....	C.Friedling *	1999-.....	David G. Watson Sr.*
1935-.....	C.Pelt *	2000-.....	Dennis Owenby*
1936-1937-.....	L.D.Patterson *	2001-.....	Bob Boose
1938-.....	T.H.Brown *	2002-.....	David G. Watson Jr.
1939-.....	C.P. Remling *	2003-.....	"Skip" Franklin*
1940-1941.....	A.O.Moody *	2004-.....	James Hiller*
1942-1943.....	M.Linder *	2005-.....	David "Doc" Rivera*
1944-.....	G.L.Pritchard *	2006-.....	Ronald J. Brimmer*
1945-.....	J.S.Meadows *	2007-.....	Robert Dishon
1946-.....	H.W.Meadows *	2008-.....	Mark Titzel
1947-.....	E.E.Doub *	2009-.....	Howie Angeloni
1948-.....	J.E.McEan Jr. *	2010-.....	Don Campbell
1949-.....	J.W.Thompson *	2011-.....	Greg Wynn+
1950-.....	D.C.Graves *	2012-.....	Hoyt "Al" Lawson
1951-.....	W.J.Gallana */+	2013-.....	Adam Barsoum
1952-.....	Wm.E. Hegeman *	2014-.....	Troy DiVito
1953-.....	J.P.Massicotte *	2015-.....	Bill Tracy
1954-.....	J.A.Bailey Jr. *	2016-.....	Steve Wilson
1955-.....	W.Willis *	2017-.....	William Miller
1956-.....	R.M.Ekker*	2018-.....	Stephen Williams+
1957-.....	A.Vasquez*	2019-.....	David St. John
1958-.....	A.Ekker*	2020-.....	Richard Vogt+
1959-.....	RW/G. Cooley 33+*	2021-.....	Peter Loach
1960-.....	H. Smallwood +*	2022-23.....	Miguel Viruet
1961-.....	H. Rice*	2024-...	George Grosskopf, Sr.
1962-.....	J.R. Hamrick, Jr*	2025-.....	Daniel Allen
1963-.....	V. Linder*		
1964-.....	H.B. Wilder*		
1965-.....	A.L. Frisbie*		
1966-.....	W.A. Thompson*		
1967-.....	W.L. Shurtleff*		
1968-.....	W.W. Jay*		
1969-.....	J.D. Fletcher*		
1970-.....	R.F. Tatum*		
1971-.....	A.W. Fenzau*		
1972-.....	W.L. Stanford*		
1973-.....	R.W. Smith*		
1974-.....	H.J. Clausen*		
1975-.....	C. Repp +*		
1976-.....	O.H. Elmore*		
1977-.....	J. A. Brown *		



SECRETARY'S CORNER



A Recent Question to the Grand Lodge of Florida

"Can a brother contact another Grand Lodge to trace Masonic Heritage of his father, grandfather, etc., or does he have to make the request to the Grand Secretary for the same?"

Answer: Per the Grand Secretary, as long as you are ONLY researching Family History you may. ALL other inquiries must go through the respective Grand Lodge Offices.

DeSoto Lodge Current Membership: 202

W.: Troy DiVito
divitotd@aol.com
Phone: (813) 598-7087

DeSoto Lodge Secretary
P.O. Box 216
Riverview, FL 33569

Happy Birthday

De Soto Lodge's March Birthday Brothers

Wayne A. Black	Lyle W. Kelly
Donald L. Bodie Jr	William J. Miller
Dennis D. Clift.	William B. Mulligan
Kevin J.Dorsey	Adrian O. Porrata
Dean L. Driggers	David G. Watson Jr.
	Gregory L. Wunn

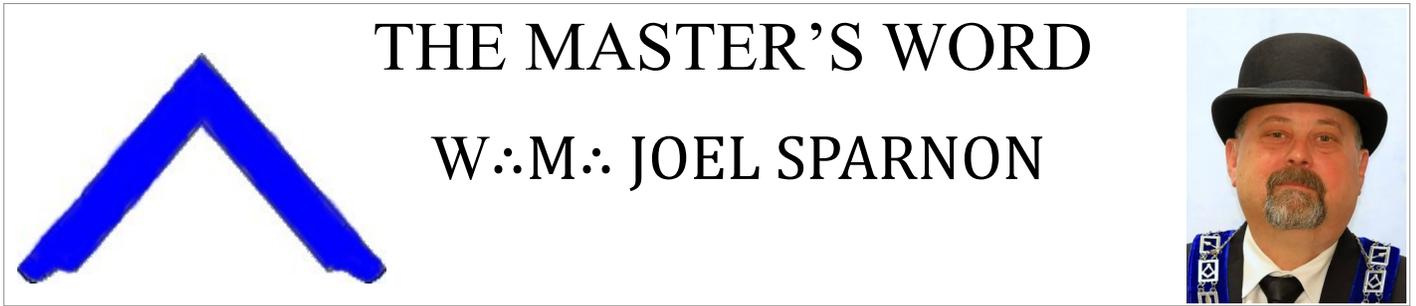
The Officers & Brothers of DeSoto Lodge join in wishing you a Happy Birthday. May your day be richly blessed with peace, joy, health and happiness.

DeSoto Lodge No. 105
F. & A.M.

**2025
MASON
OF THE YEAR
PAUL EVANCOE**

MAKING MASONS SINCE 5889 A.L.





Happy March, Brothers, Families and Friends

Welcome to Spring! What a great start to the year we have had, we had a great presentation from Steve Mckinnon from ECHO and educated us on their services for folks in crisis in our community.

The Walter Fishbach Chapter had their installation of officers February 21st at DeSoto Lodge. It was awesome to participate in this special event. I appreciate the support of the brotherhood for our youth organizations. The DeMolay and Rainbow Assembly are important to the future of our communities and our organization.

Our guest speaker for the Family Night in March will be Briana Cox, our Account Manager for One Blood (The Big Red Bus); the organization that runs the blood donations every other month at our Pancake Breakfasts. Come out and learn about the affect the blood donations have on our community.

We have scheduled a BBQ Fundraiser at DeSoto Lodge on Saturday, March 28th-- keep your eyes on the Facebook page for details. Again, this year our fundraiser will benefit Hook-A-Hero. For those who are not familiar with Hook-A-Hero, Hook-A-Hero is a 100% volunteer-driven, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded by first responders and civilians committed to supporting those who serve and protect our communities. Their mission is to provide *confidential mental health services* and a trusted peer support network for first responders and military personnel. For more information visit their website at: <https://www.hookahero.com/>.

We are also planning to have our 4th annual family picnic and corn hole tournament on June 13th so please mark your calendar.

After the hectic year of 2025 with the huge lodge room remodel project, our goals for 2026 are to close out the punch list of open items including the Lodge Remodel project and past projects that have open items that still need completing. Please help us to have at least 2 successful fund raisers, a successful Family picnic, and as much fun as possible while we accomplish these things





From the West TONY GARCIA



Greetings and Salutations:

The year is already accelerating at a quick pace and there are many things to do. We have a lot of small projects that need to be accomplished through the coming year. Everyone's help will be appreciated. If you don't know what needs to be done, please contact me or the WM. I will be planning some work days in the near future.

Little things go a long way. If you are in the Lodge and a trash barrel needs to be emptied, go ahead and empty it. If there is a mess on the floor, sweep it up. It's these kinds of things that add up. One day you may be an Officer, with higher and additional responsibilities, and you will find out for yourself of what I speak...

I know some of my previous articles were a bit preachy (is that a word?). So, I will try to minimize my sermon. Always keep our tenets in your mind. When I feel stressed or overwhelmed, I try to think about who we are, and who I am as a Mason and know that I can always call on someone for help. I don't often do so, but knowing that I have brothers who would assist me is comfort enough.

In conclusion, I would stress upon all of you to ***be an active and helpful member of our Lodge and the Fraternity.*** We would love to have all of you in Lodge at meetings and our other events. So, if you are new, a brother EA or FC, please try to come to the events. It's not just about work; you will find it's an additional opportunity to learn. For those who maybe haven't been around for a while, come in and reconnect with your brothers. We miss you and would love to have you back.

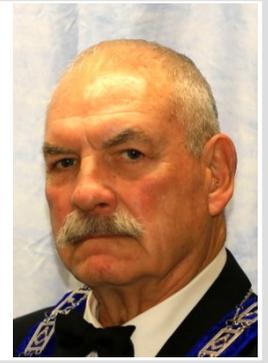
BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

MARCH 28, FROM 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

BARBEQUE FUND RAISER



From the South PAUL EVANCOE



Our recent stated meetings and family nights have surged in attendance (bravo). A big thank you to all the Brothers who have been helping me make our meals (and pancake breakfasts) successful. I can't do it without you.

I'm pleased to report that we are establishing a regular following of Desoto clays shooters. If you are interested in joining us on a Sunday morning at Fish Hawk Sporting Clays, please let me know and I will add you to our invitation list. You don't need a shotgun, I have loaners, and you don't need experience, we'll teach you. It's great fun and some serious Brotherhood.

Becoming yourself means becoming authentic and being different from others and perhaps exceeding their expectations. It means defining your individual worth and identity and not leaving it to others to define for you. Masons don't fear self-definition, they celebrate it. Masons don't wait for inspiration; they practice the craft in anticipation of it.

Practice means following a rigorous, prescribed ritual, with the intention of elevating the mind and the spirit to a higher level. A practice implies engagement in a dedicated daily regimen of commitment, will, and focused intention aimed, on one level, at the achievement of mastery in a particular field but, on a loftier level, intended to produce a communion with a power greater than ourselves – call it whatever you like: God, mind, soul, Self, the Supreme Being, the super-conscious of the Light. Regardless, it is a mind-set, and it is what we practice in Masonry on our journey to the East and the Light.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

PANCAKES - SCRAMBLED EGGS - BACON - SAUSAGE- GRITS-ORANGE JUICE - HOT COFFEE

\$10.00



EVERY FOURTH SUNDAY

FROM 8:00 AM TIL 12:00 PM

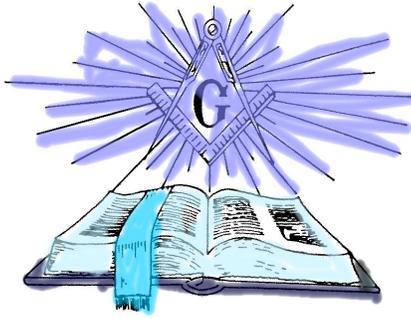
Come support your Lodge while you enjoy some good Masonic Fellowship. You are also encouraged to bring your friends & neighbors and those whom you would like to have as Brothers.

It's an excellent opportunity to "show off" our Lodge.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

RUSS GAVLAK



This month I want to devote my article to the namesake of the Order of DeMolay, which has been a part of my life for over 50 years and counting. As you read below, this is a very condensed version of what scholars believe happened over years. It is a true testament to DeMolay and the other leaders. They stayed true to their beliefs! The Order of DeMolay today holds this story close to our hearts, and it is the basis for some of what is inculcated in their teachings from its formation over 100 years ago.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY (Oct. 13, 1307)

The Knights Templar, together with their Grand Master, Jacques DeMolay, were simultaneously arrested in Paris by order of the King of France in league with the Pope. The Templars were later tortured and forced to confess to charges of heresy. DeMolay never revealed anything and he along with Geoffrey de Charney were **burned at the stake** on an island near the Cathedral of Notre Dame. Their Order was eventually dissolved years later, and their properties confiscated. Their wealth and treasures, however, were never found, consequently triggering an entire world of fascination towards the disbanded Order.

Even today, stories related to the Templars, such as those involving tales of Chivalry, lost treasures, and the Holy Grail, continue to captivate, intrigue, and inspire the imagination of both scholars and storytellers alike.

I hope you enjoy this bit of Masonic and DeMolay history.



The Beehive, an emblem of industry

Mackey, in his *Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, says of the Beehive, The bee was among the Egyptians the symbol of an obedient people, because, says Horapollo, “of all insects, the bee alone had a king.” Hence looking at the regulated labor of these insects when congregated in their hive, it is not surprising that a beehive should have been deemed an appropriate emblem of systematized industry. Freemasonry has therefore adopted the beehive as a symbol of industry, a virtue taught in the instructions, which says that a “[Master Mason](#)” works that he may receive wages, the better to support himself and family, and contribute to the relief of a worthy, distressed brother, his widow and orphans;” and in the Old Charges, which tell us that “all Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holidays.”

There seems, however, to be a more recondite meaning connected with this symbol. The ark has already been shown to have been an emblem common to Freemasonry and the Ancient Mysteries, as a symbol of regeneration—of the second birth from death to life. Now, in the Mysteries, a hive was the type of the ark. “Hence,” says Faber ([Origin of Pagan Idolatry, volume ii, page 133](#)), “both the diluvian priestesses and the regenerated souls were called bees; hence, bees were feigned to be produced from the carcass of a cow, which also symbolized the ark; and hence, as the great father was esteemed an infernal god, honey was much used both in funeral rites and in the Mysteries.”

This extract is from the article on the bee in Evans’ *Animal Symbolism in Ecclesiastical Architecture*.”



March 2026

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3:00 P.M. DeMaloy Advisory Council Meeting 4:00 P.M. DeMolay Meeting		STATED MEETING 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting	6 pm Catechism Prac 7 pm Degree Practice			9 am Catechism Prac
8 2:00 am DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	7:30 PM OES Meeting	7:00 pm Officers Meeting	6 pm Catechism Prac 7 pm Degree Practice			9 am Catechism Prac
15 4:00 P.M. DeMolay Meeting	16 7:00 pm DISTRICT SCHOOL at BRANDON LODGE 6 to 7 Open Books	17 FAMILY NIGHT 6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting St. Patrick's Day	6 pm Catechism Prac 7 pm Degree Practice			9 am Catechism Prac
22 8 am—12 pm PANCAKE BREAKFAST \$10.00 Bloodmobile here	23 7:30 PM OES Meeting 6:30 PM Master Masons Meeting at the Egypt Shrine	24	6 pm Catechism Prac 7 pm Degree Practice			28 Open Books 9 am to 12 pm at John Darling Lodge 9 am Catechism Prac 12-4 pm BBQ Fundraiser
29 PALM SUNDAY	30	31 7:00 P.M. MM Degree Dinner Between Parts				

