

STATED COMMUNICATION
**FIRST & THIRD
Tuesday**

**July 7
July 21**

DINNER 6:30PM / MEETING 7:30PM

Tropical No. 56 F&AM



TRESTLE BOARD

JULY 2026



10868 METRO PARKWAY
FORT MYERS, FL

TropicalLodge56.org

PHONE:

(239) 334-6074

2026 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

Aaron Averhart, PM

Senior Warden

Shawn Hubbard

Junior Warden

Andrew Silvia

Treasurer

Bruce Prescott

Secretary

Robert Lippek, PDDGM

Senior Deacon

Christopher Saxby

Junior Deacon

Nicholas Gadbois

Chaplain

Joseph Setaro, PM

Marshal

Thomas Knafel, PM

Senior Steward

Jerry Hamm, Jr.

Junior Steward

Robert Bennett

Tyler

John, Gavin, PM

Fellow Craft Degree at Tropical Lodge

JULY 21

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30 p.m. Degree



DDGM Official Visit



R.W. Jeff Zimmerman

JULY 7th

U.S. FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY



TROPICAL NO. 56 JULY 11 / 9:00 A.M.

NOTE: This ceremony will coincide with Open Books and is approximately 15-20 minutes.



National Sojourners is an American patriotic and fraternal organization whose membership consists of Master Masons who are serving, or have honorably serviced, in the United States Uniformed Services. Its primary missions are to cultivate Masonic ideals, promote patriotism, support national defense, and assist military youth.

A portrait of a man wearing a black top hat, glasses, a white shirt, and a dark bow tie. He is smiling and the photo is set within an oval frame.

By the time you read this we will have conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree for Glenn Taylor, Tyson Plumlee, Robert Morril, and Bradley Byars. Please be sure to extend them a warm welcome when you see them about the Lodge. I want to thank the degree team for all the hard work they put in to see that our ritual is done right. This includes Brothers who have stepped up to new positions for this degree, new conductors, W.: David Singer who traveled down from Venice to deliver the lecture, and Brother Bruce Prescott for his willingness to confer his first Entered Apprentice Degree. Tropical Lodge will also be taking part in another Senior Warden's Degree, like last year, where the Senior Wardens of

LABELLE MASONIC LODGE PRESENTS

THE CUSTARD CUP

LaBelle Masonic Lodge's Banana Pudding Contest!

JULY 28th

BEFORE THE DDGM OFFICIAL VISIT!

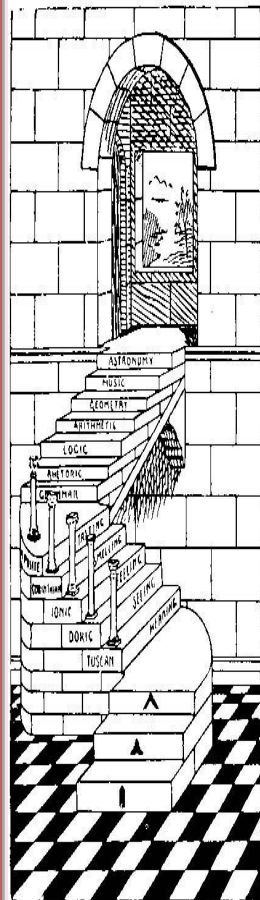
WHEN:
JULY 28th,
6:30 PM

WHERE:
THE LODGE,
LABELLE, FL

SUBMIT YOUR RECIPE! JUDGING & DESSERT AFTER THE VISIT.

OPEN TO MEMBERS & FAMILIES!

2026



A black and white portrait of an elderly man with a mustache and glasses, resting his chin on his hand. He is wearing a dark suit and a white shirt with a tie. The background is dark and out of focus.

Brother Kipling was a member of Hope and Perseverance Lodge No. 782 in Lahore, Pakistan (English Constitution in British India). The lodge was notable for its diverse, multicultural membership, which Kipling described as including members from at least four different creeds, including Hindu, Muslim, Englishman, and Indian Jew.

From the Secretary's Desk



Our 2026 dues remain \$127.30. If you are experiencing any difficulty or have concerns about payment, please contact me at the phone number listed below. I am always happy to speak with you and work through any situation. No Brother should ever feel hesitant or uncomfortable reaching out.

As noted in previous Trestle Boards, dues may be paid by credit card through the Amity mobile app or by contacting the Grand Lodge directly.

If you have had any changes to your phone number, mailing address, or email address, please notify me by email at secretarytropical56@gmail.com so that we may keep our records up to date.

Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy, and prosperous year. We look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Bobby Lippek, PDDGM

Secretary
(941) 677-2342
secretarytropical56@gmail.com



Greetings from the West



Halfway through the year—amazing!

I often take this time to reflect on what I see as I write to the Brothers.

Recently, a Brother from another lodge laid down his working tools. His daughter reached out and requested a Masonic funeral for her father. Brother Gadbois, who is doing an excellent job coordinating our funeral services, made it happen. Six Brothers were able to attend, and their presence made such an impression on the daughter that she later visited us during practice on Tuesday evening.

She shared a little about herself and her father, then presented challenge coins to the Brothers who had participated in the funeral service. She also made a generous donation to the lodge.

What impressed me most was that her father had never attended our lodge and

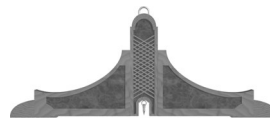
had never met a single one of our Brothers. Yet, when called upon, we showed up and demonstrated what Freemasonry is truly about.

When my own father passed away, two members of the military attended his funeral. For a Brother Mason whom we had never met, six Brothers from Tropical Lodge No. 56 came together to honor him. Let that sink in.

I am incredibly proud to be a member of Tropical Lodge No. 56, and I am honored to call each of you my Brothers and friends.

Shawn Hubbard

Senior Warden
(239) 823-6034
motherhub-bardscc@gmail.com



District 24



District Deputy Grand Master

R.:W.: Jeff Zimmerman
(239) 895-5390

1.jeff.zimmerman@gmail.com

District Instructor

R.:H.: Richard Pennewaert
(254) 258-4271

rpennewaert@gmail.com



Culinary Greetings from the South



Half of the year has gone by already. Time flies when we are being productive and positively moving forward. We have initiated and raised more new Brothers. The lodge renovations are continuing and our Brothers are being actively involved.

Last month a group of us and several petitioners got together to do a deep clean of the dining hall and kitchen. After several hours of hard work and a few laughs, those areas were cleaned and renewed. It is up to us and all our renters to ensure we keep these areas clean and ready for the next group to use them.

Andy Silvia

Junior Warden
(508) 728-7491
Asilvia64@aol.com



JULY MENU

July 7: Shepards Pie, Veggies, Tossed Salad, Rolls and Desert.

July 21: Ishmaels Rice & Beans, salad and rolls

 **Social Media**

<https://www.facebook.com/TropicalLodge56>



Happenings Last Month

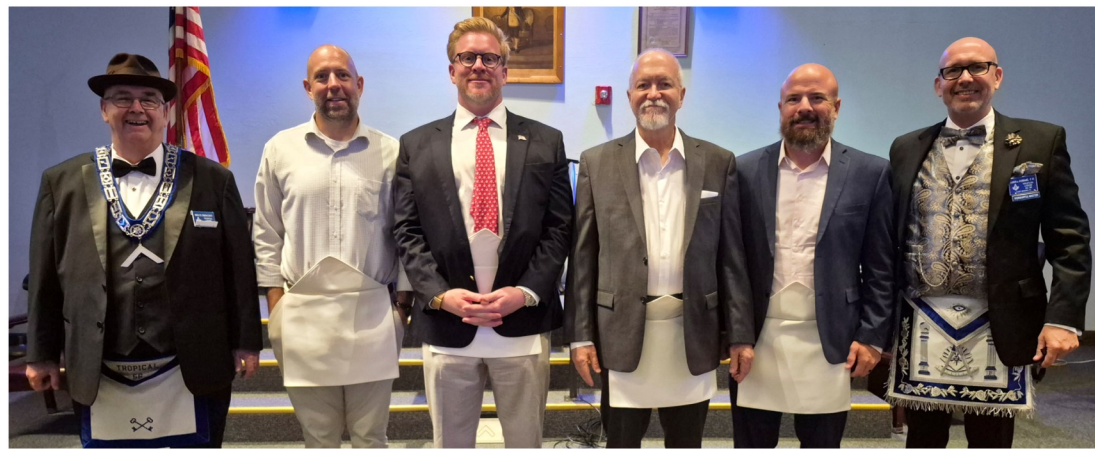
St. Johns Day Celebration



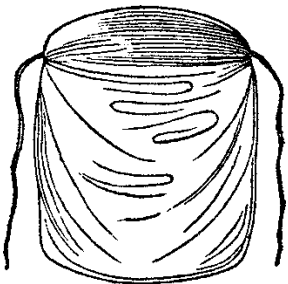
JUNE 27: Tropical Lodge No. 56 and Masonic District 24 were well represented at this year's St. John's Day Celebration, hosted by Winter Park Lodge No. 239 F.&A.M. Worshipful Kevin Gourley (Zone Chairman), Worshipful Luis Tulier (District Committeeman), Right Worshipful Jeff Zimmerman (District Deputy Grand Master) traveled to Winter Park to join Most Worshipful Grand Master Haskell R. Vest, Jr., the Grand Line Officers, and Brothers from throughout Florida in celebrating one of Freemasonry's oldest and most cherished traditions.



Entered Apprentice Degree



JUNE 30: Congratulations and welcome to our newest Entered Apprentice Masons: Glenn Taylor, Bradley Byars, Robert Morrill and Tyson Plumlee. Great conferral by Brother Bruce Prescott and charge by Worshipful Aaron Averhart.



A big THANK YOU to Worshipful David Singer for traveling down to be with us and providing a phenomenal lecture. W:. Singer is the Zone Chairman for the new Mentoring Program, seen here with Worshipful Luis Tulier who is the District Committeeman for the same program.



PAST MASTERS

Tropical No. 56 F&AM

Established
1882

L.C. Washburn* 1892-1896, 1899-1900 & 1902	Charles Varner* 1935	Berwyn Clifton* 1960	Francis D. Swaringen 1984	Barry P. Thrasher* (PDDGM) 2008
L.C. Stewart* 1897-1898	Ray Kissinger* 1936	C.J. Leffers* 1961	Maynard W. Matz* 1985	Samual Bissell 2009
Charles O. Swanson* 1901	Robert R. Gresham* 1937	James I. Whitaker* 1962	H. Curt Hardin* 1986	Ernest R. Spradling 2010
L.M. Stroup* (PDDGM) 1903 & 1909	Charles R. Smith* 1938	Earl. C. Lewis* 1963	Edward J. Jackman* 1987	Richard T. Nelson* 2011
Frank C. Alderman* 1904	Fred J. Lahor* 1939	George E. Blust* 1964	E.W. Landrum 1988	Edward McCullers 2012
N.G. Stout* (PDDGM) 1905 & 1914-1915	Guy M. Strayhorn* 1940	Robert A. Reedy* 1965	E. Wade Sandahl 1989	John Cavada 2013
George H. Ireland* 1906, 1908, 1912-1913 & 1918	Joe Shofner* 1941-1942 & 1944	Lewis R. Long* 1966	Rodney D. Irvin (PDDGM) 1990	Mark Smith 2014
Frank Kellow* 1907	L.E. Steward* 1943	Irvin I Edenfield* 1967	Wayne A. McConley 1991	Michael P. Lewis 2015
G.F. Funch* 1910	Edgar M. Boyette* 1945	Richard G. Simpson, Jr.* 1968	Gordon A. Fore* (PDDGM & GLO) 1992	John Gavin 2016
T.J. Evans* 1911	John W. Shultz* 1946	Richard T. Edelblut, Sr. 1969	Mark T. Goodman 1993	Gene F. Sims (PDDGM & PDI) 2017-2018
David N. Ireland* 1916	Leslie N. Russel* 1947	Andrew L. Chandler* (PDDGM) 1970	Edward D. Johns 1994	Joseph Setaro 2019
DeWitt T. Farabee* 1917	M.M. Tillis* 1948	Alva R. Jones, Jr.* (PDDGM) 1971	Joe D. Lewis (PDDGM & PDI) 1995	Alexander Guilday 2020
John L. Morris* 1919-1923	J.T. Harper* 1949	William E. Hart* 1972	Charles A. Williford* (PDI) 1996	Jeffery Zimmerman 2021
W.O. Sheppard* 1924-1925	J.D. Holland* 1950	Tom H. Youngblood* 1973	Thomas P. Gordon* 1997	Victor Fiore 2022
R.V. Lee* 1926	Wilson Starnes* 1951	James A. Hamby 1974	Albert H. Andrews 1998	Thomas Knafel 2023 & 2025
C.M. Storter* 1927	Roland O. Palmer* 1952	Ronald G. Frieden (PDI) 1975-1976	Bernard L. Flynn 1999 & 2001	Aaron A. Averhart 2024 & 2026
Robert T. Branham* 1928	Dana L. Brechtel* 1953	James P. Stephens* 1977	James L. Record (PDDGM) 2000	
T.P. Bartleson* 1929	W. Stanley Hansen, Jr.* 1954	Charles M. McWilliams* 1978	Samual N. Summerall 2002	
J.H. Ingram* 1930	Eugene V. Washburn* 1955	Richard G. Simpson, Jr.* 1979	T. H. Bodenhamer (PDDGM) 2003	
William R. Anderson* 1931	Foy C. Adams* 1956	Tom H. Youngblood* 1980	Roger G. Shields 2004	
John M. Trolan* 1932	Charles A. Powell, Jr.* 1957	Arlan N. Roan 1981	Jason J. Ott (PDI) 2005	
E.L. Daniel* 1933	W.W. Watson* 1958	Vernon E. Lynch 1982	E.W. Lott 2006	
Leslie G. Sheets* 1934	Marshall E. Wilkens* 1959	Earl P. Williams* 1983	Bry G. Parsons* 2007	

*Indicates Deceased

1962-2021

This section is dedicated to the Past Masters of the former Lehigh Acres No. 344 F&AM. Although their Lodge merged with Tropical No. 56 in August 2021, they are our Brothers and will continue to be honored here for their past service & dedication to Freemasonry.



PAST MASTERS

Lehigh Acres No. 344 F&AM



ROBERT BERNSTEIN*	1962
WALTER RIDGE*	1963
GRADY RYMER*	1964
THOMAS BOSWELL*	1965
LEON HURTADO*	1966
WILLIAM BEEMAN*	1967
FRANK LYONS*	1968
THOMAS BOSWELL*	1969
CHARLES GOEHLE JR*	1970
THOMAS BOSWELL*	1971
CHARLES GOEHLE JR*	1972
PAUL MELOY	1973—1974
JAMES FOSTER	1975

ROY C. ROBERTS*	1976
WILBER FRENCH*	1977
PAUL WILLIAMSON*	1978
JAMES BURGETT*	1979
RONALD TEMPLIN*	1980
JOHN BEDNAR*	1981
ERNEST SAMUELSON*	1982
HOWARD SPOERKE*	1983
WALTER REESE*	1984
ROBERT CAMPBELL*	1985
PAUL GOEHLE*	1986
WALLACE BATEMAN*	1987
LEWIS FISH	1988
TED BLOCK	1989
ROBERT HOEPPNER*	1990
ALBERT SAMUELSON*	1991
ANDREW STANFORTH*	1992
J. DOUGLAS WRIGHT	1993
HOWARD SPOERKE*	1994
HARRY HOPKINS*	1995
CLIFF AYERS	1996
KENNETH LAVINE*	1997

JEROME MASSEE*	1998
WILLIAM HORSELING*	1999
CHARLES MARTIN	2000
KENNETH LAVINE*	2001
HELMUT REIMER	2002
JAMES ROSE*	2003
CARL PETERSON	2004
JONATHAN HAMMETT	2005
RALPH MCDONALD*	2006
MICHAEL CROUCHELLI	2007
GUY WALTMAN*	2008
JOHN CARTER	2009
JASON HOLLINGER	2010
WILLIAM HORACIO JR.*	2011
PAUL GOEHLE *	2012-2013
G. RICHARD CURETON	2014
DANIEL AKARD	2015
ROBERT LIPPEK	2016
KEVIN GOURLEY	2017
JAMES BOLLA, SR.	2018
FRED NATOLI	2019
KEVIN GOURLEY	2020
LUIS TULIER	2021

*Indicates Deceased

Local Appendant Bodies in Freemasonry



Scottish Rite



York Rite



Shriners



Eastern Star



Grotto



Sojourners

TROPICALLODGE56.ORG