

**STATED
COMMUNICATION**

**First & Third
Tuesday
Dinner 6:30 PM
Meeting 7:30 PM**

**October 1
October 15**

Tropical No. 56 F&AM



TRESTLE BOARD

10868 Metro Parkway
Fort Myers, FL 33966

OCTOBER 2024



TropicalLodge56.org

Phone: (239) 334-6074

2024

Officers

Worshipful Master
Aaron Averhart

Senior Warden
Brian Apfel

Junior Warden
Robert Zimmerman

Treasurer
Gene Sims, PDDGM

Secretary
Randy Crone

Senior Deacon
Shawn Hubbard

Junior Deacon
Andy Silvia

Chaplain
Joseph Setaro, PM

Marshal
Tom Knafel, PM

Senior Steward
Christopher Saxby

Junior Steward
Nicholas Gadbois

Tyler
John, Gavin, PM



**TRUNK
-OR-
TREAT**

**October 27th
Tropical Lodge
Noon-3pm**

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

2024!

Greetings from the East



It's hard to believe I'm saying this again, but I can't believe another month has passed! Even though I'm sure, like me, you can't wait to return to a cooler and more festive season. The speed at which this year has gone by is remarkable. For those who missed the happenings at Tropical Lodge this month, here are the highlights. On Sunday September 8th we had our third Level and Square Market. It was well supported and attended, and we would like to congratulate Junior Steward Nick Gadbois on such a successful charitable endeavor.

On Saturday September 14th Tropical Lodge hosted our first Open Books for District 24. After breakfast was prepared and served by Right Worshipful Gene Sims and me, everyone headed upstairs for some study, followed by a School of Instruction where we reviewed the Entered Apprentice Degree one last time. The following Tuesday, September 17th, Tropical Lodge conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree to welcome Brothers Steven Lewter, Jermaine Johnson, and Manuel Torres to the fraternity. I would like to thank the degree team for putting in so much practice and work, including our Fellowcraft conductors Bruce Prescott and Jerry Hamm Jr. Of note, we were also able to update our Mentor Program in time for these new Brothers, hopefully enriching their experiences and making better Masons in the process. Thank you Brother Hamm for your inspiration and all the work you put in to help make that possible.

On Friday September 27th Right Worshipful Gene Sims and I joined a few Brothers from other Lodges in our district who supported Right Worshipful District Deputy Acey Edgemon Sr. by attending the Grand Master's Official Visit to the 23rd Masonic District. The following night, Saturday September 28th, Right Worshipful Acey Edgemon Sr. and Cypress Lodge No. 295 hosted the official visit of Most Worshipful Donald Cowart, Grand Master of Masons of Florida, and his party to the 24th Masonic District. I am proud to be a part of the 24th and the way we came together to support our District Deputy Grand Master and his lady Judy. It was good to see the Grand Master in our Lodge again, and we look forward to welcoming him back soon. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event such a success.

Looking forward, on Saturday October 12th Cypress Lodge No. 295 will be conferring the Master Mason Degree. Our Senior Deacon Shawn Hubbard and I will be helping to make and serve breakfast from 8-9 am, and the degree will begin at 9. Please plan on doing a little traveling to come support our Brothers being raised in Naples that morning. The next morning on Sunday September 13th Tropical Lodge will once again host the Level and Square Market from 10 am to 2 pm. We hope you will join us for that as well. Lastly Trunk or Treat 2024 is scheduled to be back at Tropical Lodge on Sunday October 27th from 12 to 3:30 pm. Please bring your kids and grandkids, your neighbors and their kids, and spread the word far and wide. We look forward to seeing you there. Remember that you can keep up with all the latest happenings at www.tropicalodge56.org.

I would like to close by reflecting on our recent encounter with Hurricane Helene. While we were fortunate to be spared community-wide devastation like we experienced during Hurricane Ian, there are still plenty of local residents who were negatively impacted. Please be mindful of your neighbors who are struggling, as well as those around the state, and when you give to support their relief efforts please remember all those who gave so generously to us.

Sincerely & Fraternally,

Aaron A. Averhart

Worshipful Master

(239) 995-8837

cmndraeverhart@gmail.com



Planned Events for Remainder of 2024

October 12th *Cypress Lodge Master Mason Degree* (Saturday): Cypress will be doing courtesy work for some of our Brothers. They will need people to fill chairs for the second half of the degree and are looking to us to assist them. Shawn and I will be going down to help with breakfast and would take any assistance you can offer with that as well.

October 27th *Trunk or Treat*: W.: Jeff Zimmerman has agreed to head this up again, which will be a district-wide production and needs support.

November 9th *Widows/Ladies Night* (Saturday) will be a celebration of the women that help enrich our lives and organizations; this will include Masonic widows, wives, girlfriends, OES, etc.

November: *Thanksgiving Dinner Charity* — This is something being led by Senior Deacon Shawn Hubbard;

December: *Year End Event* will be a gathering to celebrate our year together, and reflect on our progress.

From the Secretary's Desk



Brothers, It is that time of year that I will be sending out your 2025 Dues. Our 2025 dues will be \$127.30 again this year. Just a reminder there are still about ten brothers that have not paid their 2024 dues. Unfortunately, if those 2024 dues are not received by December the 27th I have to NPD that brother. Please do not make me have to do that. If you can not pay for a reason, call me at **239-340-2310** and we can talk and work something out. Remember as in past Trestle Boards you can pay by credit card, in the Amity phone App.

If you need to make any updates on phone number, addresses. Please let me know by sending an email to Secretarytropical56@gmail.com. I hope you have a wonderful October.



Randy Crone

Secretary

(239) 340-2310 / secretarytropical56@gmail.com



**Sunday
October 27th**

**Tropical
Lodge**

NOON—3:30PM

District 24

Grand Lodge Officers

District Deputy Grand Master

R.:W.: Acey Edgemon, PM
(239) 860-4045

District Instructor

R.:H.: Bruce Rivera, PM
(239) 297-9400



Quote of the Month

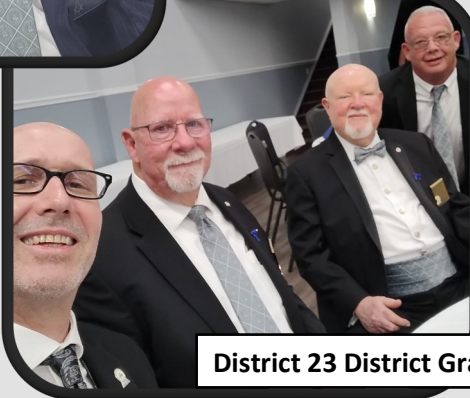


Albert Pike, 33°

*"We must pass through
the darkness to reach the
light.." —Albert Pike*

Last Month

District 24 Grand Master Official Visit

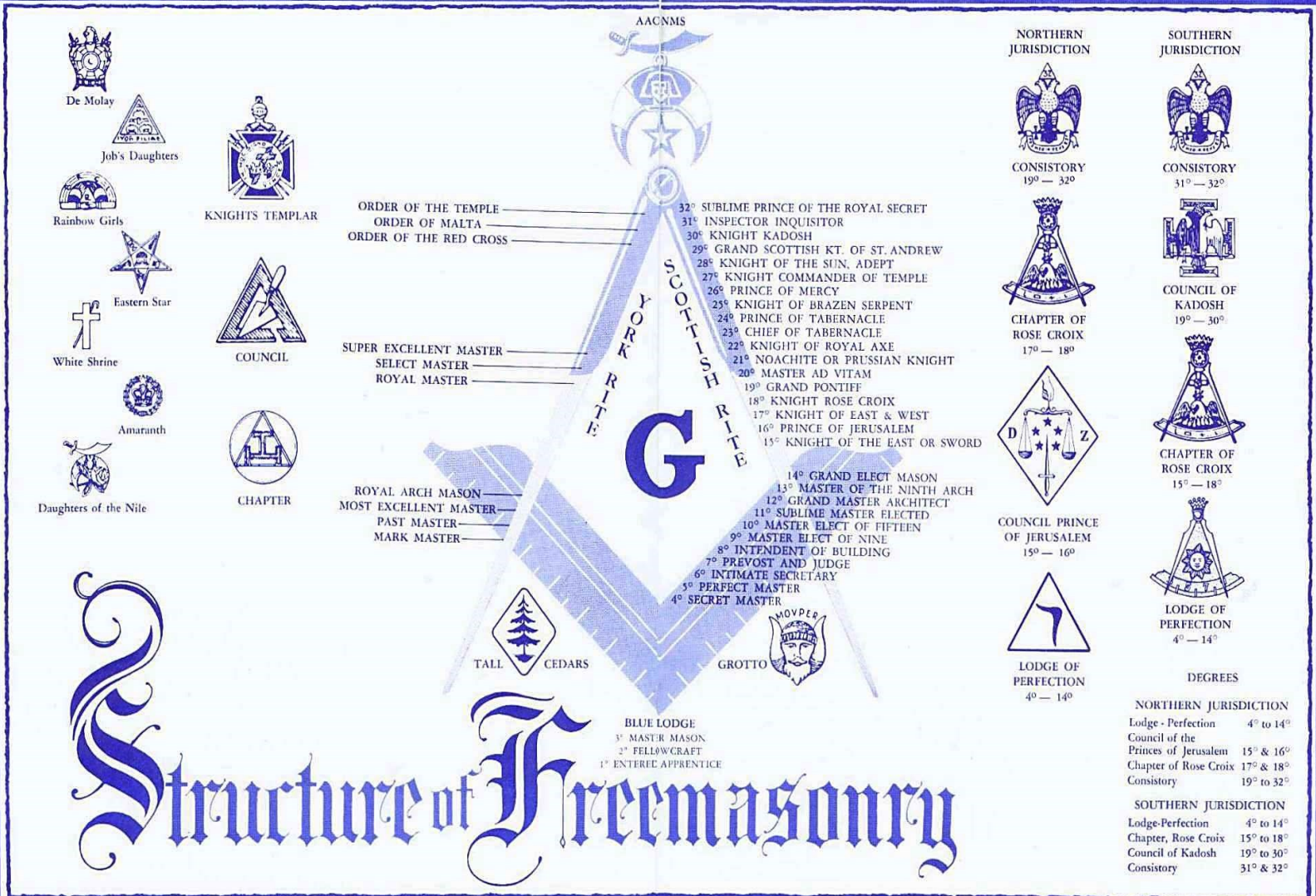


District 23 District Grand Master Official Visit



Entered Apprentice Degree





Level and Square Market

October 13, 2024

INDOOR MARKET

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tropical Lodge No. 56 F & AM

10868 Metro Parkway.

Fort Myers, FL 33901

HANDMADE JEWELRY | SOUR DOUGH BREADS | DESSERTS |
CANDIED JALEPENOS | HANDMADE SOAPS AND LOTIONS |
CANDLES | AND MORE!!!

Proceeds For October
Go To Support
Local Charities and
Community Events

**Come Checkout
Fall and Halloween
items**

To become a vendor
Contact Nick at
786-859-1121
levelandsquaremarket@gmail.com

**Start your
Holiday
Shopping Early**

PAST MASTERS



TROPICAL No. 56 F&AM

1882

2024

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	Michale 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	Jefferey 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
C.M. Storter* 1927	Roland O. Palmer* 1952	Ronald G. Frieden (PDI) 1975-1976	Bernard L. Flynn 1999 & 2001	Aaron A. Averhart 2024
Robert T. Branham* 1928	Dana L. Brechtel* 1953	James P. Stephens* 1977	James L. Record (PDDGM) 2000	<p>This page is dedicated to the Past Masters who have served Tropical No. 56 F&AM from its beginning way back in 1892 to the present day. These Brothers will continue to be honored here for their past service & dedication to our Lodge and Freemasonry.</p> 
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	

1962

This section is dedicated to the Past Masters of the former Lehigh Acres No. 344 FS&M. 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.

2021

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	JEROME MASSEE*	1998
WILBER FRENCH*	1977	WILLIAM HORSELING*	1999
PAUL WILLIAMSON*	1978	CHARLES MARTIN	2000
JAMES BURGETT*	1979	KENNETH LAVINE*	2001
RONALD TEMPLIN*	1980	HELMUT REIMER	2002
JOHN BEDNAR*	1981	JAMES ROSE*	2003
ERNEST SAMUELSON*	1982	CARL PETERSON	2004
HOWARD SPOERKE*	1983	JONATHAN HAMMETT	2005
WALTER REESE*	1984	RALPH MCDONALD*	2006
ROBERT CAMPBELL*	1985	MICHAEL CROUCHELLI	2007
PAUL GOEHLE*	1986	GUY WALTMAN*	2008
WALLACE BATEMAN*	1987	JOHN CARTER	2009
LEWIS FISH	1988	JASON HOLLINGER	2010
TED BLOCK	1989	WILLIAM HORACIO JR.*	2011
ROBERT HOEPPNER*	1990	PAUL GOEHLE *	2012-2013
ALBERT SAMUELSON*	1991	G. RICHARD CURETON	2014
ANDREW STANFORTH*	1992	DANIEL AKARD	2015
J. DOUGLAS WRIGHT	1993	ROBERT LIPPEK	2016
HOWARD SPOERKE*	1994	KEVIN GOURLEY	2017
HARRY HOPKINS*	1995	JAMES BOLLA, SR.	2018
CLIFF AYERS	1996	FRED NATOLI	2019
KENNETH LAVINE*	1997	KEVIN GOURLEY	2020
		LUIS TULIER	2021



Scottish Rite



York Rite



Shriners



Sojourners



Eastern Star



Grotto

Local Appendant
Bodies In
Freemasonry





Get ready for some FREE Halloween fun!

TRUNK-OR-TREAT



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
NOON-3:30PM

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA MASONIC CENTER
AKA TROPICAL LODGE NO. 56 F&AM

10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers

Enjoy treats, food, games & prizes!

Bring the whole family and dress in your favorite costumes! Check out the spooky attractions set up by our volunteers and vendors!

Presented by Free & Accepted Masons of Southwest Florida



**Tropical Lodge No. 56
Free and Accepted
Masons
and
Order of Eastern Star No. 31**



PRESENTS

TURKEY DINNERS



TICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**All proceeds go to the purchase of turkeys
for the families of Tice Elementary School**

\$15 purchases one turkey

Help us meet our goal of \$3,000 (200 turkeys)

**For more Information Contact Shawn Hubbard
(239) 823-6034**

