

MARCH-APRIL 2022



IMPORTANT DATES

Lodge Meetings

Stated Meeting – March 1 - 7:30 pm

Called Communication – March 15 – 7:30 pm

Stated Meeting – April 5 - 7:30 pm

Stated Meeting – April 19 – 7:30 pm

Other Events

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day April 15 – Income Taxes Due! April 23 – Lodge Work Day December 1 – Augie's Birthday

TRESTLEBOARD

Tropical Lodge No. 56 Free & Accepted Masons 10868 Metro Parkway, Fort Myers, FL 33966

Did You Know.....

Advertisements.....

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From The East

Worshipful Master Vick Fiore

Greetings from the East My Brothers,

Happy Easter! I hope that you all have a very enjoyable Easter with your families.

The year is passing quickly, and April is shaping up to be a very busy month for the Lodge. We will be reviewing legislation at our meeting on April 5th, and please help us if you are able with the Lodge Work Day scheduled for April 23rd.

Also, the sale of the Lehigh Lodge is looking good, and we will continue to give updates on the status. We enjoyed a fun movie night on March 15, and the officers and I are planning to bring more entertaining nights like that to the Lodge.

Again, I would like to extend an open invitation to wives, children and family to dinners, and hope to see more Brothers at our Lodge meetings as we continue through the year.

Very sincerely,

Vick



If you haven't paid your 2022 Dues yet, please do so as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please call Randy Crone at (239) 340-2310.



Greetings from the West Brothers,

My thoughts for this Trestleboard edition are all about a number of Brothers that deserve a big thanks from all of us. Dave Foote & Eddie Sanchez have spent a great deal of time identifying and pricing the many improvement and maintenance items that the Lodge needs. This work is critical to the building and finance committee's efforts to prioritize projects while being good stewards of our lodge finances. Additionally, many of you know that our Secretary, Randy, heads the committee for the sale of the Lehigh building. What you probably don't know is the number of hours that he has put into leading this effort. We are in a good place as it relates to the sale and he is the major reason why. The 2022 kitchen team of Aaron & Shawn have been doing a terrific job serving up dinners. It is a feat that is especially amazing when you consider our J.W.'s preferences in cuisine. Last, you may have noticed a number of improvements to the Lodge's general upkeep. While a number of people contribute to this, none as much as our J.W. Whether it's mopping the dining room, trimming hedges, meeting contactors or any number of other tasks, Aaron has been putting many hours into our building. I hope that all of you will join me thanking these Brothers, as well as those that I have missed, for their dedication.

Fraternally,



" Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." —Jack Welch



Junior Warden's Message

Brother Aaron Averhart

Greetings From the South,

I hope this finds everyone healthy and happy. We are nearing the end of March as I write this, and I am amazed at the speed with which this quarter of a year has passed! It has been an honor to serve as your Junior Warden thus far, and I look forward to more great things to come in 2022! As we settle into our groove, so to speak, the kitchen has followed suit. With the help of Brother Shawn Hubbard, we have been preparing good hot meals, served on time to the waiting Brethren. Please make sure you express your thanks to Brother Shawn for all of his hard work and dedication to our Lodge as the Senior Steward. If you are interested in becoming a part of the kitchen crew in any capacity, please contact me at 239-995-8837 or cmndraverhart@gmail.com and I greatly thank you for your consideration Brothers.

On Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 8 to 11 am, Tropical Lodge will be holding a Lodge and Grounds Workday. In the past, not only have these days been productive and helped to improve the general appearance of the Lodge and grounds, but they have also been a fantastic bonding experience, providing a chance for Brothers to get together and have some fun while at the same time giving something back to our Lodge. For just a few short hours, I would like to work on the outside the building, and if scheduling permits, get inside for some extra cleaning of the kitchen, dining hall and anywhere else that requires it. We also have small projects which we are able to accomplish on these workdays, aside from general maintenance and upkeep. Your particular skill set may be the one item we need to complete a project! These promise to be productive and fruitful days for the Lodge, providing we have your support. "Many hands make light work" is more than just a saying, and can truly help make these days short, manageable, and enjoyable!

(Continued on Page 6)

2022 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master

W∴ Vick Fiore Phone: 239.895.5390 Email: onepoint13@yahoo.com **Senior Warden Bro. Thomas Knafel** Phone: 317.379.6923 Email: tknafel@gmail.com **Junior Warden Bro. Aaron Averhart** Phone: 239.204.7286 Email: cmndraverhart@gmail.com Treasurer W∴ Mike Lewis, P.M. Phone: 239.340.5602 Email: mglewis1313@gmail.com Secretary **Bro. Randy Crone** Phone: 239.340.2310 Email: secretarytropical56@gmail.com **Senior Deacon Bro. Brian Apfel Junior Deacon Bro. Robert Zimmerman Senior Steward Bro. Shawn Hubbard Junior Steward Bro. Brandon Howell Tyler** W∴ John Gavin, P.M. **Chaplain** W∴ Joseph Setaro, P.M. **Marshal** TBA

If You Missed It...

February 2022 Summary

- At our Stated Meeting on February 1,
 - JW Aaron Averhart conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on Bro. Christopher Saxby. Congratulations Brother Saxby, and to the Tropical Degree Team!
- At our Called Communication on February 15,
 - R: W: Robert "Bobby" Lippeck, DDGM and his party were received for his 2nd official visit.
 - R:.W:. Lippek, D.D.G.M. gave warm remarks. He reported that the Lodge is currently in compliance with all required requirements. He reminded everyone of the April 30th Secretary / Treasurer Seminar. Grand Lodge main hotel is full, overflow hotel is available. He thanked everyone for their continued support.
 - Comments from the attending District Committeemen. District Committeeman for Masonic Education/MLT R:.W:. Gene Sims, presented R:.W:. Wilhelm Llanillo with his MLT diploma.
 - R:.W:. Lippek, D.D.G.M. delivered the Most Worshipful Grand Master's Message.
- Charity of the month of February was the Galae Grotto.

March 2022 Summary

- At our Stated Meeting on March 1,
 - A motion was made and approved that our next communication here at Tropical on March 15th be a Called Communication; it will be a movie night featuring The Quiet Man, starring Bro. John Wayne. Popcorn and Hot Dogs will be available.
- At our Called Communication on March 15,
 - Movie night featuring The Quiet Man, starring Bro. John Wayne.
- Charity of the month of March was the **Midwest Food Bank**.



New Brothers

We welcomed Brother Christopher Saxby in February.

New Candidates

The Secretary read no new petitions in February or March.

Sickness & Distress

Please keep the following Brothers in your thoughts and prayers:

Bro. Jason Rine Bro. Ed Lanham Bro. Joe Caiazza Bro. David Zucker Bro. Kurt Wagner W∴ Barry Thrasher, P.M. W∴ Jim Record, P.M. Family of Bro. Ray Navor Family of Bro. Ray Navor Family of Bro. Gerald Bahr Hill Family of Bro. Gerald Bahr Hill Family of Bro. Harry E. Post

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Lodge Calendar

		Southwest Flor	ida Masonic Cent April 2022	er Event Calenc	dar	
<u>Sun</u> 27	Mon 28	Tue 29 <u>6 pm - 9 pm</u> York Rite Practicw	Wed 30 <u>6 am - 9 am</u> <u>Scottish Rite Practice</u>	Thu 31	Fri April 1 April Fool's Day <u>6 pm - 10 pm Synagogue</u>	Sat 2 <u>10 am - 4 pm</u> <u>DON</u>
3 10 am - 4 pm DON	4. <u>5.pm - 10:30.pm OES Stated meeting</u>	5 <u>6:30 pm - 9:30 pm</u> <u>Tropical Lodge Stated</u> <u>Meeting</u>	6 <u>6 pm - 9 pm</u> <u>GROTTO STATED</u> <u>MEETING</u> <u>630 pm - 7:30 pm</u> <u>AASR Exec Com</u>	7	8 <u>6.pm - 10.pm</u> <u>Synagogue</u>	9 <u>11 am - 6 pm</u> Allied Masonic Degrees
10 Palm Sunday	11	12 7. pm - 9:30. pm Poinciana Chapter No. S	13	14 Maundy Thursday	15 Good Friday Passover <u>2 pm - 10 pm</u> <u>Synagogue</u>	16 Holy Saturday <u>2 pm - 10 pm</u> <u>Synagogue</u> <u>10 pm - 1 am</u> <u>DON</u>
17 Easter	18 Easter Monday <u>10 am - 4 pm</u> <u>DON</u> <u>5 pm - 10:30 pm</u> <u>OES Stated meeting</u>	19 <u>6:30 pm - 9:30 pm</u> <u>Tropical Lodge Stated</u> <u>Meeting</u>	20 630 pm - 9 pm AASR Consistery	21	22 Earth Day Last Day of Passover <u>6.pm - 10.pm</u> <u>Synagogue</u>	23 <u>8 am - 11 am</u> Work Day Parking Lot
24	25	26 <u>6 pm - 9 pm</u> <u>Commandry</u>	27 <u>6:30 pm - 9:30 pm</u> <u>Master Mason</u> <u>Association</u>	28	29 <u>6 pm - 10 pm</u> Synagogue	30 7 am - 3.pm Secretary and Treasurer's Seminar 11 am - 6.pm Red Cross of the Constatine

Proud Home Of: AASR - YR - OES - Grotto - KMUSA - AMD - RCC - Tropical Lodge56



Grand Lodge Information

2022 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Grand Master M∴W∴ Jeffrey S. Foster Senior Grand Warden R∴W∴ Glen B. Bishop Grand Treasurer R∴W∴ Rudin J. Boatright **Grand Chaplain** R∴R∴ Chester J. Tokar Grand Marshal R∴W∴ Haskell R. Vest Junior Grand Deacon R∴W∴ Jack W. Hampton **Grand Sword Bearer R**∴W∴ Howard C. Chase Junior Grand Steward R∴W∴ Ben S. Schwartz Grand Tyler R∴W∴ Allen E. Wood **Grand Musician Bro. Michael Seeley**

Deputy Grand Master R∴W∴ Robert Lambert Junior Grand Warden **R**∴W∴ Donald W. Cowart **Grand Secretary** M∴W∴ Richard E. Lynn, P.G.M. **Grand Orator R**∴W∴ Ernest W. Catsulis **Senior Grand Deacon** R∴W∴ Harry H. Boyette **Grand Standard Bearer** R∴W∴ John N. Dragneff **Senior Grand Steward** R∴W∴ William P. Macken **Grand Pursuivant** R∴W∴ Michael R. Gambarrotti **Grand Historian R**∴W∴ Anthony DeAngelo

2022 DISTRICT 24 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

District Deputy Grand Master R.: W.: Robert Lippek Phone: (239) 600-9084

> District Instructor R∴ W∴ Scott Peacock Phone: (617) 271-4331



Junior Warden's Message (Cont'd)

Brother Aaron Averhart

We will be doing this on the last Saturday of every month, unless it conflicts with something on the calendar or a rental opportunity, and I hope you will consider coming out and joining us for some fresh air, honest work, and great fellowship. It is open to officers and Brothers alike, and offers a chance for all to be involved! Keep an eye on your email, the Lodge page on Facebook, and the official Lodge calendar at www.tropical56.org for updates. In a short collective 10 man hours, we have already tamed 2/3 of the jungle that is our overgrown landscaping, and once these larger issues are dealt with, Lodge work days will be only light maintenance and specific projects.

Please consider this, if you take away nothing else, we all take a little more pride in the things we have some ownership of! With that, I urge you to come join us as we return to the basics, working together hand in hand to accomplish that most worthy goal of charity; for the betterment of ourselves as Masons, and the Lodge we all take so much pride in! Come be a part of Tropical Lodge my Brothers.

It is a continued pleasure to serve the craft and I thank you again for that privilege. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting and also thank you for your continued support of Tropical Lodge No. 56 and her officers.

Fraternally Yours,

Aaron

"Historia est vitae magistra"

Special Notices





Lodge Information

Lodge Committees

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Finance	W∴ Vic Fiore	239.895.5390
Vigilance	JW Aaron Averhart	239.204.7286
Petitions	TBD	
Masonic Education	SW Tom Knafel	317.379.6923
Board of Relief	W∴ Vic Fiore	239.895.5390
Investigations	TBD	
Charity	W∴ Vic Fiore	239.895.5390
Lodge Property	TBD	
Budget	W∴ Vic Fiore	239.895.5390
Building	Bro. Dave Foote	239.633.4650
By-Laws	Bro. Randy Crone	239.340.2310
Child ID	TBD	
Coaching	TBD	
Delinquent Dues	Bro. Randy Crone	239.340.2310
Director of Work	Bro. Chris Tilman	239.738.3303
Fundraising	TBD	
Funeral	TBD	
Historian	TBD	
IT	TBD	
Kitchen	JW Aaron Averhart	239.204.7286
Library	TBD	
Building/Grounds Maint.	SW Tom Knafel	317.379.6923
Masonic Store	W∴ Mike Lewis, P.M.	239.340.5602
Perpetual Membership	Bro. Randy Crone	239.340.2310
Public Education & Citz.	W∴ John Gavin, P.M.	
Public Relations & Publ.	TBD	
Scholarship	TBD	
Sickness/Distress & Visit.	W∴ Joe Setaro, P.M.	239.357.7454
Trestleboard & Comm.	Bro. Chris Tilman	239.738.3303
Youth Activities	TBD	

Living Past Masters

Edelblut, R.T.	1969
Frieden, R.G.	1975 & 1976
Roan, A.N.	1981
Williams, E.P.	1983
Swaringen, F.D.	1984
Matz, M.W.	1985
Landrum, E.W.	1988
Sandahl, W.A.	1989
Irvin, R.D.	1990
McConley, W.A.	1991
Goodman, M.T.	1993
Johns, E.D.	1994
Lewis, J.D.	1995
Andrews, A.H.	1998
Flynn, B.L., Jr.	1999 & 2001
Record, J.L.	2000
Summerall, S.N.	2002
Bodenhamer, T.H.	2003
Shields, R.G.	2004
Ott, J.J.	2005
Lott, E.W.	2006
Parsons, B.G.	2007
Thrasher, B.P.	2008
Bissell, S.	2009
Spradling, R.	2010
McCullers, E.	2012
Cavada, J.	2013
Smith, M.	2014
Lewis, M.	2015
Gavin, J.	2016
Sims, G.	2017 & 2018
Setaro, J	2019
Guilday, A.	2020
Zimmerman, J.	2021

Get Involved!

Help the Lodge By:

- Attending Lodge Meetings ٠
- Joining a Degree Team •
- ٠ **Candidate Coaching**
- Becoming an Officer ٠
- Joining a Committee ٠
- Helping in the Kitchen •
- Getting Active! •

Call Bro. Randy Crone if you have questions or need information on what you can do to help the Lodge.

Committee Activities

Public Education and Citizenship Committee



The Grand Lodge of Florida's Public Education and Citizenship program is designed to teach citizenship primarily through our public education system. The program challenges each Lodge to exceed 100 points, and we want Tropical Lodge to participate in this valuable and rewarding program.

The report section (from 2020) on page 9 from The Grand Lodge of Florida has suggested activities for community involvement. We are asking that you look it over and share your ideas of which activities Tropical Lodge might be able to do, and what individuals or groups might participate in them or benefit from them. The Grand Lodge has guidelines for these activities, and we will determine the feasibility of any suggestions given.

Some of these activities can be carried out by friends or family members of Freemasons, but it needs to be organized by the Lodge to apply. Depending on which activities we choose, fund raising may need to take place. Please consider getting involved as we grow this program which will help the community and introduce people to who we are.

Please contact: Committee Chairman John Gavin Email: john.gavin@gavinsace.com

Trestleboard and Communications Committee

We welcome and encourage any Brother to submit articles, stories, pictures, or any other information that might benefit the Craft through the Trestleboard. In addition, anyone who wishes to be a Trestleboard booster or has a business that you wish to advertise in the Trestleboard, please email Bro. Chris Tilman at tilmanclan@gmail.com.

Building Committee



The Building Committee has been very active identifying ways to improve both the appearance of the building and property, and to make it more efficient to reduce the costs of operation. We are talking with contractors and getting pricing for drop ceilings throughout the Lodge and repairing/resealing the exterior doors to further reduce air losses and electricity costs.

There are many other simple improvements that we have identified that really just require some elbow grease and determination... and the Lodge needs Brothers to help in this effort!

The Building Committee is also actively planning for future improvements to the Lodge and will communicate updates during Lodge meetings. If you would like to help your Lodge with this important work, please email Bro. Chris Tilman at tilmanclan@gmail.com.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP AWARD 2019-2020

EACH LODGE SHOULD COMPLETE THIS REPORT AND SUBMIT IT DIRECTLY TO THE STATE CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 2020. Presentations will be made at the 2020 Grand Lodge Communication. NOTE: Every Lodge that accumulates at least 100 points will receive a plaque or tab for outstanding service to PUBLIC EDUCATION AND CITIZENSHIP. Multiply the point value of each event by the number of events to determine the total for each category. Total all categories to determine the Grand Total. Ask your District Chairman, Zone Chairman, or District Deputy Grand Master for assistance.

ALL LODGES SHOULD FILE A REPORT REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF POINTS ACCUMULATED.

THIS REPORT IS TWO (2) PAGES IN LENGTH. PLEASE SUBMIT BOTH PAGES WITH THE PROPER SIGNATURES BY THE DEADLINE NOTED.

		Number Of	Total
ACTIVITY	Points	Units	Points
 Grand Lodge Certificates of Appreciation to deserving recipients for civic service, public education, and citizenship. 	5		
 Presentation of at least one \$100.00 cash scholarship/award to a deserving student or students. 	5		
Assist municipality or county in non-partisan voter registration and promotions.	5		
 Use of the Lodge by Scouting groups, senior citizen organizations, or non-Masonic groups. 	5		
Conduct a family program in the Lodge with a public official as the guest speaker.	5		
6. Sponsor a party or visitation to a children's home, a home for the elderly, a VA nursing home, or other such facility.	5		
 Donation of \$50.00 or more to the Public Education and Citizenship Plaque Fund or Special Project Fund. 	5		
 Donation of \$75.00 or more for a Grand Lodge billboard to support the Grand Lodge Publicity Committee or the erection of a Masonic roadside sign. 	5		
 Sponsor a youth group, Scout group, little league team, DeMolay, Rainbow, or Job's Daughters. 	10		
 Present the Flag Folding Ceremony at a meeting of an appropriate organization and present a U.S. Flag. 	10		
 Present a JROTC cadet with the Outstanding Cadet Certificate and monetary award. 	10		
12. Submit appropriate articles and photographs to local media outlets and <i>The Florida Mason</i> for all activities.	10		
13. Participate in the Adopt-A-School project as described.	50		
14. Participate in the Adopt-A-Teacher project as described.	50		
 Participate in Good Citizenship Program for 7th grade, present posters, give a talk on The Bill of Rights. 	25		
16. Participate in the I Love America Essay project and Flag Presentation.	25		
	5 pts. per Brother		
17. Participate in a District Public Education/Citizenship Workshop.	attending		
 Other community service projects or activities (describe on attached sheet). 	5		
GRAND TOTAL POINTS			

Trestleboard Boosters 2022

For information about how to be a Trestleboard Booster, please email Chris Tilman at tilmanclan@gmail.com.

^C R∴W∴ Gene F. Sims, P.M.

Christopher Tilman



Did You Know...

A Mason Develops Daily

By Mike Clevenger, PM, New England Lodge No. 4

Dr. John Maxwell in his book, The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, describes in the Law of Process, that becoming a leader cannot be accomplished by attending an event, a seminar or workshop. A leader develops himself by the deliberate practice of leadership education.

The same holds true for Masonry. The degrees are an event and will not make you a Mason. Only by a process of study, contemplation, and practice will Masonry change you and you Become Masonry.

To develop yourself to become a Mason requires a process of practice. The Stoic philosopher Epictetus said this:

"That's why the philosophers warn us not to be satisfied with mere learning, but to add practice and then training. For as time passes, we forget what we learned and end up doing the opposite, and hold opinions the opposite of what we should."

Unless we use the tools and lessons of Masonry, we will forget what we learned.



April

March

Mar 02	Ivan Davies	Apr 01	Paul Claybaugh
Mar 03	Randy Collmer	Apr 01	George Cureton
Mar 03	Bryan Glover	Apr 01	Alexander Guilday
Mar 04	Eduardo Sanchez Jr	Apr 02	Joseph Caiazza
Mar 09 Mar 11	Roger Shields Johnie Allred	Apr 03	Charles Regan
Mar 13	James Flerx	Apr 04	John Goddard Jr
Mar 15	Mark Smith	Apr 04	Thomas Gutknecht
Mar 18	John Shoemaker	Apr 08	Donald Horton
Mar 19	Shane Pettibone	Apr 08	Gary Vickers
Mar 21	Thomas Knafel	Apr 08	Bojan Stricevic
Mar 25	James Hudnall	Apr 10	Harvey Youngquist
Mar 26	Bruce Merton Sr	Apr 11	Randy Crone
Mar 28	Beaufort Bierce	Apr 12	Steven Ribortella
Mar 28 Mar 29	Aaron Averhart Edward McCullers	Apr 16	Albert Andrews
Mar 29 Mar 29	Timothy Ennis	Apr 16	Bradley Stewart
Mar 30	J King	Apr 17	James Record
Mar 31	Charles Jackson	Apr 17	John Gavin
Mar 31	Barry Thrasher	Apr 18	Charles Conley III
		Apr 19	Cid Chevalier
		Apr 20	Tommy Blakeman
		Apr 23	Rodney Irvin
		Apr 25	Christopher Rasmussen
		Apr 26	Jess Shackleford
		Apr 27	John Green
		Apr 28	Ralph Renfro Jr
		Apr 30	Gerald Hill
		Apr 30	Phillip Curzio
		-	-

Trestleboard Advertisements

For information about how to advertise in the Trestleboard, please email Chris Tilman at tilmanclan@gmail.com.



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We Are Master Masons We Are Royal Arch Masons We Are Royal and Select Masters We Are Knights Templar DE ARE THE YORK RITE