

# LaBelle No. 379 Free & Accepted Masons



180 Jaycee Lions Dr.

## TRESTLE BOARD

### MARCH 2024

[LaBelleLodge379.org](http://LaBelleLodge379.org)



## Greetings from the East



Brethren: It is hard to believe that it is already March! During the last month we had a lodge work-day and I want to personally thank Right Worshipful Ed Lanham and Brothers John Smith and Dennis Bennett for being present and assisting with cleaning & organizing things in the dining room and kitchen area.

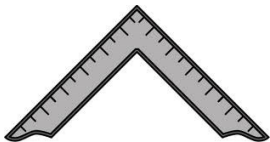
Just a reminder that our fundraiser will be on March 22, which will consist of pulled pork, baked beans and coleslaw. Make sure to get your tickets.

On February 27th thirteen Brothers from Cypress Lodge traveled to LaBelle Lodge to return the traveling steer head. Thank you to Cypress Lodge for a great visit and fellowship.

On February 29th the 3rd annual Joint Called Communication between LaBelle Lodge, Sugarland Lodge and Ft. Myers Beach was held. It was a great time for fellowship and a great trivia contest. We had approximately 70 Brothers that attended. Thank you to all the supported this event.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

**W.: Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM**  
Worshipful Master  
Phone: (239) 462-2101  
Email: [offcrplaca@icloud.com](mailto:offcrplaca@icloud.com)



# Happy St. Patrick's Day

# St. Patrick's Day

## STATED COMMUNICATIONS SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAYS



**March 12**  
**6:30pm Dinner**  
**7:30pm Meeting**

**March 26**  
**6:30pm Dinner**  
**7:30pm Meeting**



## From the Desk of the Secretary



Greetings, Brothers. Right now we have 79 active members of our Lodge. Eighteen of them are either Perpetual members or 50-year exempt (or both) and are not required to pay dues. That leaves 61 dues-paying members.

We're only two months into the new year now and already almost two thirds of our dues-paying members have paid as well as some of the Perpetual and 50-year exempt. That's pretty good considering we were late getting the dues notices out. We appreciate the quick response by those of you who have paid and hope the rest of you will send yours in soon.

Also, so far, 100 percent of you who responded have paid the \$7.30 voluntary contribution to the Let-Your-Pennies-Make-Good-Sense (LYPMGS) program which goes directly to our Masonic Home. This is a very good cause Brothers, and part of our Solemn Obligation. Some paid even more money for the general Lodge fund which is used for various other charities, paying bills, etc. Brothers, your response if very much appreciated and we hope will continue.

Thank you and I hope to see you at Lodge

**R.W.: Ed Lanham, PDDGM**  
Secretary  
Phone: (239) 872-9211  
Email: [edgar.lanham@gmail.com](mailto:edgar.lanham@gmail.com)



## Greetings from the South



Brother Phillip Keyes received his 50 year Scottish Rite cap which is light blue with the insignia 50. This is quite an accomplishment, so congratulate him when you see the Chaplain of LaBelle Lodge.

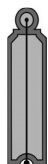
Brothers George Benjamin and James McVey are making good progress with their Master Mason Degree catechism. Keep at it, my brothers — you got this.

The annual fundraiser for LaBelle Lodge is currently underway. This is where a ticket for the ½ chicken with sides is \$10. Please help support the lodge as the proceeds go to local charities and deserving folks.

LaBelle Lodge hosted a joint called communication between Fort Myers Beach No. 362 and Sugarland No. 281 last month. This was the third year in a row that we have hosted this very great event.

Thank you. Please attend your local lodge, God Bless.

Bro. Fred Wright  
Junior Warden  
Phone: (239) 675-6503  
[FredWright807@gmail.com](mailto:FredWright807@gmail.com)



## What's New?

Lodge T-shirts have arrived! Check with R.:W.: Ed Lanham, W.: Izzy Lopez or Bro. John Smith to see if your size is available. The cost per shirt M/L/XL is \$20. For 2X and 3X the cost is \$25 per shirt.



FRONT



BACK

## Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry



Congratulations to our very own Brother Phil Keyes, 32° for receiving his Blue Hat at the **Scottish Right Valley of Fort Myers**. The blue hat is given to dedicated Brothers who have served 50 years in the Scottish Rite.





## A TREASURER'S REQUEST

*By Anonymous*

Forget the hasty, unkind word;  
Forget the slander you have heard;



Forget the quarrel and the cause;  
Forget the whole affair, because,



Forgetting is the only way.  
Forget the storm of yesterday;



Forget the knocker, and the squeak;  
Forget the bad day of the week.



Forget you're not a millionaire;  
Forget the grey streaks in your hair;



Forget to even get the blues -  
But don't forget to Pay Your Dues!



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



This old story is true, at least as far as the long passing years allow, about two Civil War veterans who sought to homestead in the wilds of Florida's Everglades. About all either of them owned when they arrived at their claims were the clothes they were wearing so they were pretty disappointed when all they could see was sawgrass growing out of the swamp. One of them swore bitterly about his bad luck, turned and left in the direction he had come. The other one fashioned a snare so he could catch something to cook and eat for supper.

As the years passed the second man continued catching his food, working his land, building, dreaming, planning and slowly prospering. His traps yielded pelts he traded or sold. He dug a canal to drain his property and piled the dirt up to make a place for his cabin. He planted a vegetable garden, and built a barn. He could grow three crops a season that he sold in Palm Beach. He eventually married and started a family. He taught the lesson of his hard work as the way to grow and prosper.

Eventually the children used the lessons their parents taught and developed successful lives for themselves around Lake Okeechobee. Today the grandchildren continue the practice of hard work, honest dealings, and perseverance, coupled with a formal education to become pillars in our community. The point of this story is that we can cuss our disappointments and runaway, or we can plow into what we have and see what grows.

**Bro. Phil Keyes**

Chaplain

Phone: (863) 675-3813 / Email: [philkeys@embarqmail.com](mailto:philkeys@embarqmail.com)



## Message from the Trestle Board Editor & Publisher



I've been doing desktop publishing and creating monthly trestle boards for Labelle No. 379 and Sugarland No. 281, as well as the Spring & Fall Newsletters for the [Scottish Rite of Fort Myers](#), for many years now. I would very much encourage any Brother that would like to submit an article for the "good of the order" to email me their submission.

With the approval from the Worshipful Master, I will make sure your content is added to a future edition of our trestle board.

Most Fraternally,

**W.: Kevin Gourley, PM**

Social Media & Web

Email: [KLGourley1971@gmail.com](mailto:KLGourley1971@gmail.com)



## Quote of the Month

*"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you've imagined."*

—Henry David Thoreau

 **Masonic  
Home** of Florida



February 29th, 2024

## Third Annual Joint Called Communication

Sugarland No. 281  
Fort Myers Beach No. 362  
LaBelle No. 379







# PAST MASTERS

JAMES PENDRY*	1977-1978
CHARLES MACDOWELL*	1979
EDWIN RENOLDS*	1980
THOMAS K. WOOSLEY*	1981
KENNETH PICKLES	1982
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1983
JOSEPH H. FUTCH*	1984
WILLARD BRYANT*	1985
ROBERT P. MIDDLETON*	1986
GLENN R. MICKEY*	1987
EASTON BURCHARD*	1988-1989
LEWIS WHIDDEN*	1990
MICHAEL BOYLE	1991
L.E. RICHARDSON, SR.*	1992
DOUG SCRATCHLEY, SR.*	1993
J.S. HARRIS	1994
MIKE GUTHRIE	1995
J. THOMAS PAXON*	1996
JAMES JENNINGS*	1997
JIM MARSHALL*	1998
CARL W. SWANSON*	1999
JIM CIANFRANI	2000

JERRY HUBBART*	2001
STEVE POLHEMUS	2002
GLENN R. MICKEY*	2003
RUSS BUCCINI*	2004
JACK ROSE*	2005
KEVIN NELSON	2006-2007
HERBERT HOLLENBECK*	2008
CURTIS DODD	2009
BRUCE ARMSTRONG	2010
JOHN W. NELSON	2011
M. MATT HECKERT	2012
RAY NAVOR*	2013
NICHOLAS FIDANZA*	2014
GREG GUNTER	2015
L.E. RICHARDSON, JR.	2016
THOMAS BOARDMAN	2017
TONY WEEMS	2018
ADRIAN SANCHEZ	2019
ED LANHAM	2020
BILL MADDOX	2021-2022
ISIDRO LOPEZ	2023

\* Indicates Deceased



Trestle Board Editor & Publisher: W.: Kevin Gourley, PM (2018-Present)

## 2024 Officers

**Worshipful Master**  
*Isidro "Izzy" Lopez, PM*

**Senior Warden**  
*John "Cowboy" Cote", PM*

**Junior Warden**  
*Fred Wright*

**Treasurer**  
*Bob Coleman*

**Secretary**  
*Ed Lanham, PDDGM*

**Chaplain**  
*Phillip Keyes*

**Marshall**  
*William Maddox, PM*

**Senior Deacon**  
*Earnie Hollingsworth*

**Junior Deacon**  
*George Benjamin*

**Senior Steward**  
*James McVay*

**Junior Steward**  
*John Smith*

**Tyler**  
*Cecil Raulerson*



## District 24 Grand Lodge Officers

**District Deputy Grand Master**  
*R.:W.: Michael O. Gardener, PM*  
(239) 707-8302

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