

Sugarland No. 281 F&AM

Trestle Board—February 2026

520 E. Sugarland Hwy Clewiston, Florida 33440-0072 | P.O. Box 72 Clewiston, FL 33440



Greetings from the East



I hope everyone had a terrific holiday season. I am very proud that I was elected to another year as Worshipful Master and I would like to thank all my Brothers for their vote of confidence. I want to Thank the Officers that were there for me and helped me get things done.

I do have some plans for the upcoming year and hope I can get the help to get them done. We will be having a fundraiser very soon. We are having our 50/50 drawing fund raiser to help support our scholarship fund and our educational programs.

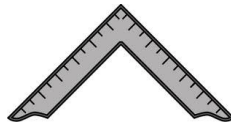
I would like to give a special Thank You to Worshipful RL Marsh for all he has done running that committee. Excellent Job! Hope to see you all at an upcoming meeting.

W.: Roy Gattone, PM

Worshipful Master

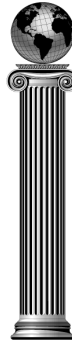
Phone: (863) 228-6717

Email: aiminghygh62@aol.com



STATED COMMUNICATION

FIRST AND THIRD THURSDAY



FEBRUARY 5

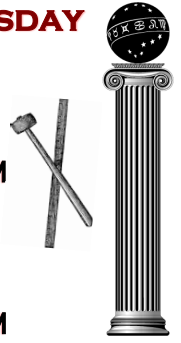
Dinner at 6:30 PM

Communication at 7:30 PM

FEBRUARY 19

Dinner at 6:30 PM

Communication at 7:30 PM



From the Secretary's Desk



I want to continue to remind all my Lodge Brothers to keep steadfast in working on your qualifications: Master Mason I, II, & III, as well as your MLT training. These qualifications must be recorded in your Masonic Service Record, before you can be nominated for an elected office and are required if you wish to move through the three

principle chairs. No Brother is exempt from these requirements, even those who have been through the chairs before. This training is very beneficial and will be an enormous help to you on your journey through the Chairs. Please see me so we can go about setting up the training.

Brothers, as we start our journey through this year, let us do our best to grow our Lodge and promote it throughout our community. Let everyone who meets a Brother come away with a favorable view of Freemasonry, in how we conduct ourselves, care about our community and reflect the values of our great fraternity.

Fraternally & Respectfully,

W.: Richard Clemmons, PM

Secretary

Phone: (863) 227-7469

Email: brewtalone@yahoo.com



DID YOU KNOW?

George Washington has two birthdays because Great Britain and its colonies switched from the Julian calendar to the more accurate Gregorian calendar in 1752, adding 11 days and shifting the new year's start, which moved his birth date from February 11, 1731 (Old Style) to February 22, 1732 (New Style). This calendar change meant his original date was adjusted by a year and 11 days to align with the new system, creating two dates for his birth.



Statue of George Washington
George Washington Masonic National Memorial
© 2020, Kevin Gourley, PM

For the first two decades of his life, Washington celebrated on February 11th, but after 1752, February 22nd became his recognized birthday, a date that continued to be celebrated and eventually became a federal holiday (now known as Presidents' Day).



32nd Degree Scottish Rite Freemasonry

The Scottish Rite Valley of Fort Myers is looking to enroll candidates for the 2026 Spring Reunion class on March 14th & 15th.

There is an [online petition](#) on the Valley of Fort Myers website. Here you can learn about and become active in the 4th thru 32nd degrees of Freemasonry. If you enjoy ritual or the meaning behind it, the Scottish Rite may be for you. To be considered for the upcoming class email KLGourley1971@gmail.com.

2026 Officers

Worshipful Master
Roy Gattone

Senior Warden
Tommy Rudd

Junior Warden
Khristian Moore

Treasurer
Jon Basquin

Secretary
Richard Clemmons, PM

Chaplain
James Rusty Griffin, PM

Marshal
Joel Case, PDDGM

Senior Deacon
Michael Castillo

Junior Deacon
Mark Branaman

Senior Steward
Juan Carolos Santana

Junior Steward
C Cecil Raulerson

Tyler
John Smith



District 22

**District Deputy
Grand Master**

R.:W.: Robert L. Causey
(305) 758-8794
lencausey@gmail.com

District Instructor

R.:W.: Juan F. Juarez, Jr.
(863) 532-0585
juarezjr02@gmail.com

Musings From A Chaplain

By Brother Phil Keyes, LaBelle No. 379 F&M

Last year while waiting in a doctor's office I picked up a ragged, torn piece of a magazine, I think it was the AARP, to glance at an article about a lady in California who was rescuing horses. What struck me about the article was one of her quotes that most of us know but so few of us practice.

The writer of the article told how the woman had a glamorous career where she accumulated all the material and external things that are supposed to make us happy. But she wasn't content so at age 50 she quit her dream job and completely changed her life and lifestyle.



It was a nice and well-written article as most AARP pieces are, but as far I was concerned it was hinged with Hum. In other words, I wasn't interested and didn't care that she changed her lifestyle. A lot of people quit jobs

and move on to other careers. In fact, I know a lady in West Virginia who quit her long-time teaching job to begin writing stories about farmers, miners and the families of farmers and miners. Unfortunately her stories didn't sell so when she was flat broke; she married a city fireman and started driving a school bus.

At any rate, the California lady also got married and with her new husband and bought a ranch where they could raise rescue horses. Still the magazine story lacked any great interest for me and just as I was ready to toss it back on the table, I saw the lady's quote: "Rescuing horses has taught me a lot about patience, forgiveness and living in the moment. But the main thing is you can't achieve happiness by collecting all the material things our world offers."

As Masons we know she's right. Doing for others, animal and human, and seeing the light come back into someone's eyes is our greatest obligation and pleasure.



PAST MASTERS



C.M. Pickle	1948-1949	Oswell L. Sutton	1973	Kevin M. Moore	1997
W.W. Perry	1950	Troy T. Cotton	1974	Ronald Evans	1998
Ezra E. Kelly	1951	Thomas Adams	1975	Wayne Wilkins	1999
James C. Jackman	1952	James Sorrells	1976	Glen R. Mickey	2000
W.J. Robinson	1953	T.W. Jack Wynn	1977	Alvin Akridge	2001
John R. Barton	1954	Bob Goedhart	1978	David J. Veale	2002
Floyd Andrews	1955	Melvin Keen	1979	Melvin Keen	2003
C.M. Giddens	1956	David Veale	1980	Teodoro "Ted" Reyes	2004
Lawrence E. Lee	1957	E. Edwards	1981	Richard Clemmons	2005
John Doty	1958	William Griffin Perry	1982	Melvin Keen	2006-2007
Robert E. Goedhart	1959	William "Bill" Thomas	1983	Teodoro "Ted" Reyes	2008-2009
John W. Wynn	1960	Wayne Wilkins	1984	John Cote	2010
Lewis W. Wethington	1961	John David Thomas	1985	Kevin M. Moore	2011
Thadis W. Wynn	1962	John Stanberry	1986	Kevin Nelson	2012-2013
John M. Drake	1963	James Armstrong	1987	Cecil O. Akin	2014-2015
Donald M. Galassini	1964	Wayne Wilkins	1988	Teodoro "Ted" Reyes	2016
Melvin C. Keen	1965	T.W. Jack Wynn	1989	William T. Maddox	2017
Abner H. Vann	1966	Price Wileman	1990	R.L. Marsh	2018-2019
Bobby Giddens	1967	John Drake	1991	John Cote	2020
Robert I. Pearce	1968	David J. Veale	1992	Kevin M. Moore	2021
W. Perry	1969	Wayne Wilkins	1993	R.L. Marsh	2022-2023
Robert Stacey	1970	Jim Griffin	1994	Antonio Weems	2024
Carl E. Wilson	1971	Glenn R. Mickey	1995	Roy Gattone	2025
Perl Corrington Spires	1972	Alvin Akridge	1996		

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



Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/SL281>