

# THE TRESTLE BOARD

## PINELLAS DAYLIGHT LODGE, No. 385 F&AM

CHARTERED MAY 16, 1984

STATED COMMUNICATIONS 10 A.M. 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

Meetings at Selama Grotto, 3000 16<sup>th</sup> St. N. St. Petersburg, Florida, 33704

*"Your frequent appearance at our Communications is earnestly solicited."*

*Published Bi-monthly*

### Officers for 2017:

**Worshipful Master:** Matthew B. Winters

**Senior Warden:** Louis I. Thomas

**Junior Warden:** Ralph E. Vaughan

**Treasurer:** William B. Garrett Jr.

**Secretary:** William B. Garrett Sr.

### Appointed Line officers:

**Chaplain:** Claud Cheshire

**Marshal:** Nils Bengston

**Senior Deacon:** Alton Millis

**Junior Deacon:** John R. Gum

**Senior Steward:** Reed G. Rue

**Junior Steward:** Whitney U. Baker

**Tyler:** Kenneth J. Lane

### STANDING COMMITTEES:

**Board of Relief:** All Elected Officers

**Budget and Finance:** Louis Thomas, William Garrett Jr  
William Garrett Sr.

**Masonic Education:** John Gum, Charlie Cheshire, William  
Garrett Sr.

**Charity:** John Gum, William Garrett Jr, Whitney Baker

**Petitions and Investigations:** all Master Masons

**Vigilance:** Ralph Vaughan, Reed Rue, Ed. Street

**Lodge Property:** John Gum, Charlie Cheshire, William  
Garrett Sr.

### PAST MASTERS

*Donald J. Minor PDDGM	1983_1984 UD
*Harold R. Hayes	1985
Harry E. Greene PDDGM	1986
Richard C. Daniel PDDGM	1987
David J. Mason	1988
Claud C. Cheshire	1989_2004_2005
Ronald L. Morris	1990
Gary L. Edenburn	1991
*Harry L. Michelson	1992
*L. Kelly Dougherty, Sr.	1993_2003
*Raymond D. Paine Sr.	1994
Roger R. Webb	1995
*Richard M. Levy	1996
Robert G. Kirkpatrick	1997
W. Bruce Steube, III	1998_2002
Alton E. Millis	1999
*Donald W. Upton	2000
*John W. Lovelace Jr.	2001
Nicholas S. Cutts	2006
William B. Garrett Jr. PDDGM	2007
William B. Garrett Sr.	2008_2009
Thomas W. McVeigh	2010_2014
Ronald B. Watson	2011
Frederick Kalkbrenner Jr.	2012
F. Ed Street PDDGM	2013_2016
Whitney U. Baker	2015

*\*Absent until the day Breaks and the shadows flee away!*

## September / October 2017

**From Wisdom:** Summer Greetings! The year has been flying by and very successful. Your Lodge has been hard at work. At our last meeting we voted to "Adopt A Class at Nina Harris Elementary in Pinellas Park for \$200.00. I will be delivering the check personally and more to come on that one.



We have the distinct privilege of the Grand Master of Masons of Florida, Richard G. Hoover, in our District and an Honorary Member of Pinellas Daylight Lodge. As such, I would like to personally invite everyone out to The Grand Masters Homecoming on September 30, 2017 at the Innisbrook Golf & Country Club located at 36750 US Hwy 19 N. Palm Harbor, FL. The event will begin with a fellowship hour at 6:00 PM followed by the program beginning at 7:00 PM. For more details and to register for this historic event titled "There's No Place Like the HOME" please visit [www.hoover2017.org](http://www.hoover2017.org) and we look forward to seeing you there!

Have a great day and I look forward to seeing all of you in Lodge soon!

**Fraternally,**

**Matthew Winters, PM**

**Worshipful Master**

**From Strength:** Brothers,



**Interesting Dates for September and October:**

**Friday September first at 10:00 AM. Is Pinellas Scottish Rite meeting.**

**Labor Day is September 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM is Pinellas Daylight Lodge No. 385 meeting.**

**September 20<sup>th</sup> First Day of Rosh Hashanah for all of our Jewish friends; don't forget to say Hi. It is also Suncoast Master Mason Association meeting with dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30.**

**First day of Autumn is Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. I hope not to see**

**September 27<sup>th</sup> a Wednesday is Open Books at Gulf Beach Lodge. Get some practice on Degrees and Catechisms and Lectures.!**

**Yom Kippur begins Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully there will be no wars beginning that day so that our Jewish friends can enjoy their holidays.**

October 5<sup>th</sup> is the Full moon, “There is a moon out tonight.”

October 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM is Pinellas Scottish Rite Club meeting.

October 9<sup>th</sup> Columbus Day is observed, a banking Holiday!

October the 10<sup>th</sup> is Pinellas Daylight Lodge No. 385 from 10:00 until 1:00PM. See you there!

October the 18<sup>th</sup> a Wednesday is Open Books at Clearwater Lodge. Get some practice on Degrees and Catechisms and Lectures.!

October 31<sup>st</sup> is Halloween. Is Selama Grotto having a party?

Brothers please go out with petitions in your pockets and get new candidates to sign up for Three Degrees in Free Masonry. We need candidates for EA, Fellow Craft and Master Mason. The petitions are now on the Grand Lodge Website under the Tab Forms, but they are not available in legal size.

Please help us to lead this Lodge into more good times by your hard work.

**Fraternally**

**Louis I. Thomas, P,M,  
Senior Warden**

**From Beauty:** My Brothers, the first half of the year has passed us and the second half will prove to be most industrious. We will Ballot on one petition for the three degrees of our order in September, which means practice, practice and more practice. We must sharpen our individual ritual parts so that the candidate will be most impressed with the ceremony.



With the change in our election protocol, we will hold nominations in November, and elections in December. If you are looking to advance in the line, or to become active in the line, please let the Worshipful Master or Senior Warden know of your desire.

**Fraternally**

**Ralph E. Vaughan P.M.  
Junior Warden**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY**

My Brothers All:



**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

As your Lodge Secretary – It is my duty to keep accurate proceedings and records for the Lodge and Grand Lodge. We are fast approaching a new Masonic Year and with that in mind there comes

changes. Please advise me of any change to your mailing address, (including e-mail address), phone numbers (cell, home and business). Should you desire to receive your trestle board via email, please advise me immediately. Should you change any information as mentioned above please contact me on or before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

It is the duty of the Lodge Tyler – “To guard against cowans and eavesdroppers and suffer none to pass or repass except such as are duly qualified”. Therefore, you should be ready upon entering the Lodge to present to the Brother Tyler a current dues card before attending any tyled meeting.

**Fraternally,**

**William B. Garrett, Past Master**

**Secretary**

**Phone: (727) 547.5385**

**Email: [sitthedown@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:sitthedown@tampabay.rr.com)**

Visit our Web-Page at [www.pdl385.org](http://www.pdl385.org)



### The Only Woman Master Mason

Along with many other “firsts”, North Carolina has the right to claim the first and only woman Master Mason in the history of the Masonic Order - from the building of King Solomon’s temple down to the present day. Her name was Mrs. Katherine Sweet Babington. She was born December 1815, near Siler City, N.C., which was then called Gee’s Crossroads. Her father died when she was an infant and she was reared by her grandfather and six uncles, all of whom were active Master Masons. It so happened that the Masonic Hall, a large room over the local schoolroom, was near her grandfather’s farm, and

her uncles kept the place in order. During all of her childhood, she was surrounded by the atmosphere and traditions of Freemasonry. She would hear in the parlor or at the table who was to be admitted into the Lodge, and what degrees were to be conferred. One day, when she was about 16, she was in the old schoolhouse and discovered that it was possible to crawl between the ceiling of the schoolroom and the floor of the Lodge room and that, by crawling under the altar, she could see and hear through a crack all that took place. For a while, she was in doubt about employing her spyhole, but finally womanly curiosity



triumphed. The next time an initiation was mentioned, she resolved to see the candidate put through his paces. Leaving the house before the uncles, she took a roundabout path and arrived before any of the Lodge members. She gained her vantage point, and when the Lodge was opened and the initiation started, she saw and heard everything. The first meeting she thus secretly attended revealed to her the degree of Entered Apprentice. When the same initiate was later passed to Fellow craft and raised to Master Mason, she was hidden under the altar on both occasions. Her attendance in this manner continued for more than a year, and it was only by accident that she was finally caught. One evening one of her uncles left something in the Lodge room, and returned for it just in time to catch young Katherine emerging from her hiding place. When he realized what had happened, he ordered her to return home immediately. When they arrived, he summoned her other five uncles and grandfather and they held a council as to what to do about the matter. She freely admitted that she had attended every meeting for over a year. Upon Masonic examination it was found that she was as well versed in Masonry, the signs, symbols, words and secrets of the order, as any of them. A hurried meeting of the Lodge was called, and prominent Masons from nearby Lodges were asked to attend and give their advice as to the proper thing to do. (Remember, at this time, the Grand Lodge was largely symbolic and had little to do with the day-to-day operation of the subordinate Lodges). After a month of deliberation, it was decided that, although the "candidate" was a woman and not yet 21 years of age, the only means of rectifying the situation was to administer to her the three degrees of Masonry, with their attendant obligations. This was done at once, and Katherine Sweet became the first and only woman Master Mason in history. Later, in 1834, Katherine married B. B. Babington and traveled with him over much of the Eastern United States. When they were married, Mr. Babington was not a Mason, but he later joined the order and, after they had returned to their farm near Siler City, he became Master of the local Lodge. For many years, when Katherine said that she was a Master Mason, her husband would not believe her and treated her statement as a joke. But one day he was shocked to discover that what she had said was true. They were sitting upon their front porch with Bro. William Murdoch of Salisbury, N.C., a Masonic lecturer, approached. As he came up the driveway, Mrs. Babington gave him the Masonic signs of the three degrees. Mr. Murdoch was astounded and asked Mr. Babington what he should infer from her

evident knowledge. Her husband, as much surprised as Mr. Murdoch, requested that they go into the parlor and there, behind locked doors, she told them the circumstances surrounding her joining the order and convinced them that she was in truth a Master Mason. Mr. Murdoch later asserted that she was one of the best informed persons in Masonry that he had ever seen in all his experiences as a Masonic lecturer. During her married life, while traveling extensively with her husband, Mrs. Babington had several occasions to use the Masonic signs. She invariably found that Masons responded, but one and all were astonished at her use and knowledge of the signs, words and grips. Mrs. Babington died in Shelby, N.C., June 28, 1886. In her obituary notice in the Shelby Aurora, it was stated that: "She was the only female Mason in the United States". Only one other woman ever took Masonic degrees. This was the Hon. Elizabeth Aldworth, nee St. Ledger, daughter of Sir Arthur St. Ledger, first Baron Kilmayden, of Doneraile House, Cork, Ireland. Lady Aldworth went to sleep in a room adjoining the Lodge room in her father's castle. Being awakened by the administration of the Fellow craft Degree in the adjacent Lodge room, she curiously listened until the meeting was over, when her presence was discovered. In order to meet the situation, the Lodge administered to her the Entered Apprentice and Fellow craft degrees, but she was never made a Master Mason. This was in 1712. It was reserved for a North Carolina woman to have that unique distinction.

(From "THE STATE" Magazine, November 15, 1958)



**BRING A MASON FRIEND TO LODGE**