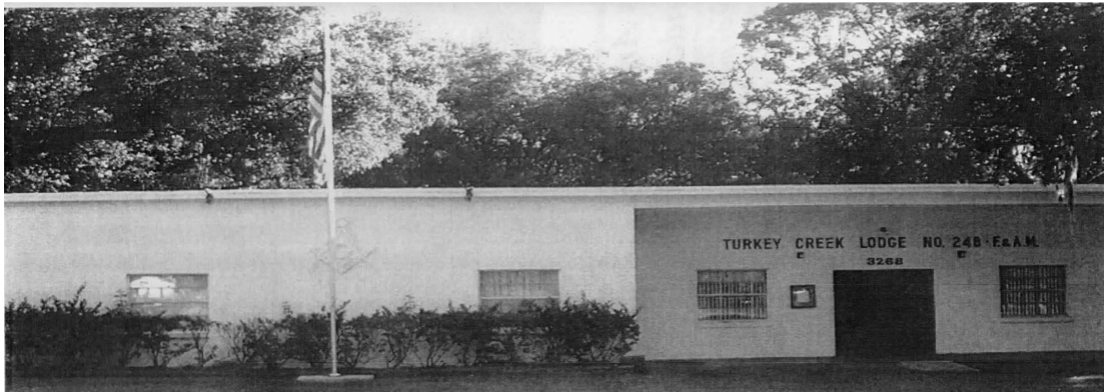


Turkey Creek Lodge No. 248  
Free and Accepted Masons  
PO Box 340  
3268 Jerry Smith Rd)  
Dover, FL 33527-0340  
Two miles North of State Road 60  
<http://turkeycreeklodge248.org>



~February 2015 Edition~



### Officers 2015

Worshipful Master AJ Ahrens.

Senior Warden Brice Cross ~ Junior Warden John Fincher  
Treasurer W. Larry Gillespie, PM ~ Secretary Gary Bryant, PDDGM  
Senior Deacon Josh Salter ~ Junior Deacon Steven Skeen  
Senior Steward George Grosskopf ~ Junior Steward Robert Creel  
Chaplain Jack Holloway, PM ~ Marshall John Wermann, PDDGM  
Tyler Robert C. St. John, Jr., PM



# Past Masters



W.A. Hooker, 1921-23*	A.O. Baynard, 1962	I.D. Vance, 1997
T.H. Bell, 1924-25*	K.H. Hinson, 1963*	C.L. Hill, 1998
W.M. Hartin, 1926-27*	W.T. Simmons, 1964*	L.R. Gillespie, 1999
H.C. Creemer, 1928-30*	W.W. Wingate, 1965	J.F. VanBrocklin, 2000
R.L. Sheffield, 1931-32*	L. Prichard, 1966	J.B. Sampson III, 2001
W.L. Armstrong, 1933-34*	S. Williford, 1967*	T.L. Steele, 2002
C.G. Ash, 1935*	J.H. Shiver, 1969*	S.T. Yebba, 2003
E.W. Simmons, Sr, 1936*	W.R. Gillespie, 1970	J.A. O'Hara, 2004*
O.E. Baynard, 1937*	J.B. Vanders, 1971	D. Atkin, 2005*
C.H. Farnsworth, 1938*	W.R. Gillespie, 1972	J. Cooper, 2006
J.A. Studstill, 1939*	C. Sheffield, 1973*	A. Hammell, 2007*
L.E. Swatts, 1940*	K.K. Johnson, 1974*	K.W. Minton, 2008
T.N. Gaskins, 1941*	M.B. Langford, 1975	John Barnes, 2009*
J. Mindedahl, 1942*	R.J. Morgan, 1976	Ray Manus, 2010
P.S. Tyson, 1943*	F.M. Jones, 1977*	Alan D. Lively, 2011
N.R. Henley, 1944*	T.E. Hinson, 1978	James B. Bryant, 2012
P. Blondalillo, 1945*	G.R. Langford, 1979	Robert C. St. John, Jr. 2013
R.C. Colson, 1946*	T.D. Bevlin, 1980	Robert L.T. Phillips, 2014
H.C. Ham, 1947*	G.H. Lipsey, 1981	
T.B. Brown, 1948*	R.L. Locke, 1982*	
T.L. Frierson, 1949*	G.D. Varnadore, 1983	
C.L. Carpenter, 1950*	B.H. Thornton, 1984*	
W.F. Smith, 1951*	M.E. Deshong, 1985*	
H.B. Whitehead, 1952*	W.H. Scott, 1986	
C.G. Pate, 1953*	H.B. Roberts, 1987	
J. Jenne, 1954*	L.J. Varnadore, 1988	
J.S. Griffin, 1955*	C.L. Karppe, 1989*	
J.W. Yates, 1956*	L.M. Lee, 1990	
J.C. Davis, 1957*	B. Joyce, 1991	
C. Thompson, 1958	R.M. Visconte, 1992	
E.W. Simmons Jr, 1959	M.E. Deshong, 1993-94*	
J.E. Evans, 1960*	B.W. Douglas, 1995*	
J.L. Hill, 1961	J.T. Robinson, 1996*	

*\* Deceased*

**“Our Past Masters Are The Backbone Of Our Lodge”**



## From the East

Brothers and Sisters,

We are starting out the year quickly with the last visit from R.: W.: Yancey on 02/03/2015. I know the visit will be fun and interesting. It is always a great time when we have our friends from Olin S. Wright and around the District visit and spend time with us.

With the Craft's help we will be working on the roof and making other improvements. If you see a project you would like to help work on please see the SW and he will gladly use the help.

Our JW has published the family night calendar on the bulletin board and there are still months available. There is a wide variety of food already spoken for (BBQ, Fish, Meat, Chicken, etc...). Bro. Fincher will gladly sign you up and let you cook.

There are several events planned for the year, Fish Fry in April, Andy Hammell BBQ in May, July 4<sup>th</sup> parade in Brandon, Shotgun shoot, Hoedown and MORE! If there is something you would like to try please let us know and we will see about adding it.

Every Tuesday you can find me at the Lodge from around 5:00PM until 6:30PM – 7:00PM (or later) depending on the Tuesday and what is going on. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays I would like to see Degree workshops, come on out and let us know what you would like to learn more about. Unless there is a degree coming up (like the Master Mason degree on Veteran's day (11/11)) we can go over whatever you would like. We will also be working on getting MLT brought to the Lodge and continue Master Mason 1,2,3 education.

The main charity this year is food banks and the homeless in Hillsborough County. Please bring in non-perishable food items (rice, canned goods, boxed potatoes, etc...) and we will get these out to Our Community.

In addition to food items please bring clothing/suitcases/book bags or something else. These items will go toward helping children entering the foster care system. Please read more about this charity by visiting this link: <http://itsmybag.cool/> or by visiting <http://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local-news/helping-to-give-foster-kids-back-their-dignity-with-these-suitcases-you-no-longer-need>.

Fraternally,

AJ Ahrens, Worshipful Master  
Turkey Creek Lodge No 248, F&AM  
(813) 657-7940 – home  
(941) 321-0301 - cell



## **From the West**



**Greeting from the West,**

**I would like to thank everyone for my election to the West. It is looking already to be a great year. I know there are many projects you may have noticed about the Lodge. If there is something in particular that you may have noticed, if so let me know.**

**The Lodge AC/Heat is be addressed. And, I will be replacing some light bulbs that are out. Once again, if you see anything let me know.**

**Fraternally,**

**Brice Cross  
Senior Warden**





## **From the South**



**Brothers and Sisters,**

**I would like to thank you for the confidence in electing me your Junior Warden once again. This should be a great year for Our Lodge, with lots of new events for the Craft to participate in with their families. I would also like to thank the Eastern Star for cooking for the Stated Communication Meetings. I hope to some great attendance for family nights, which I will be posting the volunteers and their month on the bulletin board, as well as the open months for those who wish to volunteer the main course for that month.**

**See ya at the Lodge,**

**John Fincher,  
Junior Warden**





## From the Secretary



Brothers,

Please come out and support our Lodge. This is our first visit in 2015 from our DDGM and it would be great to see many sideliners to support R.: W.: Yancey, DDGM and Our Lodge.

Fraternally,  
Gary Bryant, PDDGM  
Lodge Secretary  
(813) 400-6252



## From the Chaplain



### Psalm 19:14

<sup>14</sup> May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to You, LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

Brethren, I know that “Happy New Year” is the usual salutation at this time of year, but new beginnings are also a part of concluding the old. Our first Masonic duty of the new year was to close the Funeral Lodge which included reading the names of our deceased Brethren for last year. Next we opened Lodge for the purpose of installing the new officers which is a time to celebrate and anticipate the coming year. The first duty of the new Officers is then to open the Funeral Lodge for the coming year. This encapsulates our year and we need to be reminded of the “inexorable doom of man” but it shouldn’t shape all our thoughts for the future. Our new Worshipful Master has some great ideas for 2015 involving our Lodge our families and our community so let us jump in and enjoy the year. I wish you all a “Blessed New Year” which in biblical terminology means God is with you and active in your life. He is our rock and our strength in good times and bad.

As this is the beginning of our year, I would like to use a few words from the beginning of our Masonic career. We are taught never to enter upon any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessing of Deity. Entering into a new year is indeed an important undertaking.

Almighty Father, endue us with a competency of Thy divine wisdom, that through the pure principles of Freemasonry, we may be better enabled to support, encourage and edify our Brothers, our families, and our communities. Amen.

**Jack Holloway**

**Chaplain**

**813-571-5733**

[lajack@Verizon.net](mailto:lajack@Verizon.net)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Stated meeting 02/03/2015
- Annie H. Schneider Eastern Star meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday
- District school of Instruction 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday @ Tampa 240
- Masters and Wardens 4th Friday @ Fellowship 265



## Lodge News



Degree Team Members NEEDED! See W.:M.: Ahrens and W.: Phillips for training and positions.

**Lodge Degree/Floor Work Practice**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> and 4<sup>Th</sup> Tuesdays of the Month**

**Lodge mentor(s)**

W.: Bob Phillips

W.: St. John

**Remember Brothers it is the actions and spirit of ourselves that make a man a Mason**

