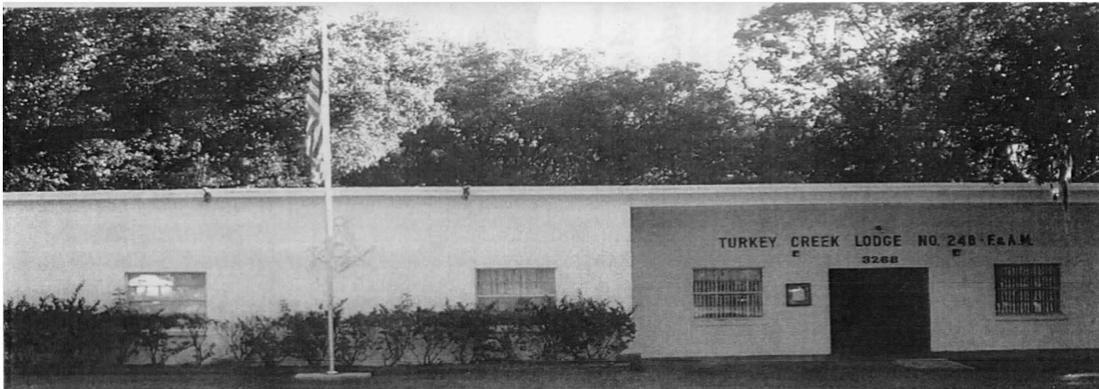


Turkey Creek Lodge No. 248  
Free and Accepted Masons  
PO Box 340  
3268 Jerry Smith Rd)  
Dover, FL 33527-0340  
Two miles North of State Road 60  
<http://turkeycreeklodge248.org>



~May 2016 Edition~



### **Officers 2016**

**Worshipful Master Brice Cross**  
**Senior Warden John Fincher ~ Junior Warden Jonathan Childers**  
**Treasurer W. Larry Gillespie, PM ~ Secretary Robert L.T. Phillips, PM**  
**Senior Deacon Dennis Hall ~ Junior Deacon George Grosskopf**  
**Senior Steward Christopher Aronson ~ Junior Steward Steven Skeen**  
**Chaplain Jack Holloway, PM ~ Marshal Arthur J. Ahrens III, PM**  
**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	Arthur J. Ahrens III, 2015
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, it has been a very productive month for Turkey Creek Lodge. The Degree team has steadily been practicing and on April 23 out on the first of two Fellow Craft degrees. A called communication was called to put on a second Fellow Craft Degree. I would like to thank R: H: Elwood Vinson, Lakeland Masonic Lodge No. 91 for delivering both of the Fellow Craft Degrees. R: H: Robert Taylor, Olin S. Wright Lodge No. 79, sat in the South for the degree, as well as various other Brothers.**

**The Lodge put on a fund raising breakfast, hosted by the Ladies of Annie H. Schneider, Chapter 326, Order of the Eastern Star. As of this writing the donations for the breakfast came to \$515.25. This is a significant amount of money raised for the Fix Our Roof Fund. But, we cannot slow down or stop there. Please remember that the Fix Our Roof Fund goal is \$10,000.**

**Please mark your calendar, tell your friends, invite your family and mention to any and every one, Turkey Creek Masonic Lodge is doing a FISH FRY, May 7, 2106, 11:30am-2:00pm. The proceeds for this is for the upkeep and daily expenses of the Lodge. I know it seems that we are constantly asking for and raising money. To be truthful Brothers, we are! It takes money to pay bills, maintain the Lodge, and provide for the needs of the Craft.**

**It is my intention to continue to hold fund raisers until we have the needed funds for the roof repair. It will take a lot of sacrifice and elbow grease from the Craft, but I believe that we can do it and do it this year!**

**Come one, come all, the Annual Andy Hammel picnic is May 21, 2016 at Edward Medard Park and Reservoir, located at 6140 Turkey Creek Road, Plant City, FL 33567. Festivities should start around 10:00am with games, fishing, fellowship and food grilled by our Brother Senior Warden, John Fincher. This is not a fund raiser. This is a time to remember W: Andy Hammel, PM and a time for the brothers, family and friends to have some fellowship.**

**If you have time, the Degree team practices at the Lodge the Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the month, at 6:30pm. Come out and help if you can. Even if you cannot participate in the Degree, you can sit on the sidelines and help the team and maybe learn a little something for yourself.**

**Fraternally,  
Brice Cross, Worshipful Master  
Turkey Creek Lodge No 248, F&AM  
(863) 838-1742 - cell**



**My Brothers,**

**Greetings Brothers, I want to congratulate Brothers Clark and Tucker on being passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. Our Saturday breakfast fund raiser and FC degree raised just over \$500.00 for the roof fund and much appreciation to the OES Sisters for the donation and preparation of the great food. We also had a great turnout from other Lodges. We will have our fish fry on May 7<sup>th</sup> hopefully you can attend. The Andy Hammell Memorial picnic at Medard park will be on the 21<sup>st</sup>, we also have open spots on the Degree team and can use some help if you're interested.**

**Fraternally,  
John Fincher  
Senior Warden**



**I'd like to congratulate our Brothers Clark and Tucker for being passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. I'd also like to thank the Sisters of Annie H. Schneider Easter Star Chapter for their help with the meals this month. May 7<sup>th</sup> is our annual fish fry and May 21<sup>st</sup> is the Andy Hammell Memorial picnic. Hope to see you there!! Also, please do not forget our Family night dinners, every third Tuesday. There are still some open months available!**

**Fraternally,  
Jonathan Childers,  
Junior Warden**



## **From the Secretary**



Several members of Turkey Creek Lodge No 248, F&AM, attended the 100-Man Initiative at A. W. Windhorst Lodge No 185, F&AM, April 14, 2016. The goal of the 100-Man Initiative was to get at least 100 Master Masons to attend a designated communication. At the formal head count at the end of the communication, there were 111 Master Masons present; several having left for one reason or another during the communication. I cannot recall seeing that many people at a called or stated communication except at a funeral service, and I'm sure there were not 100 Master Masons present even then. I was impressed to see that many Master Masons from all over Hillsborough County and Pasco County come together for a common purpose.

Brethren, a hundred years ago, even 70 years ago, Masonry was an important part of community life. Masonry should still be an important part of community life. Just observe the coarsening of manners and the loss of moral values in our society if you doubt that statement. Masonry is not what one does at a meeting one night a month, or even 15-20 nights a month, depending on how active one is with the various Masonic bodies available. Masonry is what one does with one's moral and spiritual life. After all, the motto of Masonry is to help good men become better men. To help in that quest, each Mason was pointed to the Volume of Sacred Law upon the Altar during the several obligations.

The value of Freemasonry, and attending the stated or called communications, is the association with other men with the same moral and spiritual values one has. You may be a different race, ethnicity or faith from the Mason next to you but all Masons should share the same values. Turkey Creek Lodge has over 100 members. However, with the geographical dispersion of the members, coupled with age and infirmity, it would be difficult to do a 100-Man Initiative with just the members of Turkey Creek Lodge. However, a 40-, or even 50-Man Initiative would not be out of the question. Are you up to it? How long has it been since you last attended a called or stated communication?

Fraternally,  
W.: Robert Phillips, PM  
Secretary  
813.230.7682



## From the Chaplain



### From the Chaplain

<sup>1</sup> The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

<sup>2</sup> “Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, These are the appointed feasts of the LORD that you shall proclaim as holy convocations; they are my appointed feasts. Leviticus 23:1-2

We as Masons understand teaching by types, it is mentioned at our first introduction to the fraternity. The “appointed feasts of the LORD” are not only to celebrate an historical event in Israel’s past but are also a “type” to teach us of the greater event to come. While our Jewish brothers still celebrate the appointed feasts for the reasons given in the Old Testament, Christian theology sees some of them as completed types or Antitypes.

The Passover was the slaying of the Lamb of God, the celebration of First Fruits which is celebrated three days later, points to Jesus as the first to rise from the dead which Christians celebrate as Easter and the Feast of Weeks which is celebrated fifty days later corresponds to Pentecost (a Greek word for fifty) when the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus and celebrates the beginning of the Christian Church. Last month Easter was celebrated and this month our Jewish brothers celebrate “The Passover”.

In the past the two celebrations were celebrated at the same time, but were subsequently separated. The Jewish feasts are always on the same day of the month, but to correspond to the solar calendar, Easter has a more complicated date calculation which is still based on the lunar cycle. This leaves three more “appointed feasts” to be fulfilled. It is interesting to think of what they may be a “type of”. This is definitely not meant to be a thorough study of the Religious Festivals but to get us thinking about the mysteries and wondrous things contained in our Great Light of Masonry.

O Lord, Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law.

Amen.

Jack Holloway  
Chaplain  
813-571-5733  
[Iajack@Verizon.net](mailto:Iajack@Verizon.net)

## Masonic Minutes

“We represent a fraternity which believes in justice and truth and honorable action in your community...men who are endeavoring to be better citizens...[and] to make a great country greater. This is the only institution in the world where we can meet on the level all sorts of people who want to live rightly.”

~Author – Who Am I ~

This quote was made by a famous Mason. Each month there will be a new famous Quote. I will

**not give you the author. Your mission is to find the name of the famous Mason for this quote and give it to the W.: M.:, before the next meeting. At the end of the year the person who has the most correct answers will receive a reward. One stipulation, you have to attend that month's meeting for your answer to count. Attendance has its privileges.**

**As before, contact me at the Stated Meeting and give me your answer.**

**Last month's Famous Masonic Quote was by none other than Brother Benjamin Franklin, PGM of Pennsylvania.**



# Masonic Education

When is a man a Mason?  
By Rev. Joseph Fort Newton

When he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope, and courage-which is the root of very virtue.

When he knows that down in his heart every man is as noble, as vile, as divine, as diabolic, and as lonely as himself, and seeks to know, to forgive, and to love his fellowman.

When he knows how to sympathize with men in their sorrows, yea, even in their sins-knowing that each man fights a hard fight against many odds.

When he has learned how to make friends and to keep them, and above all how to keep friends with himself.

When he loves flowers, can hunt birds without a gun, and feels the thrill of an old forgotten joy when he hears the laugh of a little child.

When he can be happy and high-minded amid the meaner drudgeries of life.

When star-crowned trees and the glint of sunlight on flowing waters subdue him like the thought of one much loved and long dead.

When no voice of distress reaches his ears in vain, and no hand seeks his aid without response.

When he finds good in every faith that helps any man to lay hold of divine things and sees majestic meanings in life, whatever the name of that faith may be.

When he can look into a wayside puddle and see something beyond mud, and into the face of the most forlorn fellow mortal and see something beyond sin.

When he knows how to pray, how to love, how to hope.

When he has kept faith with himself, with his fellowman, and with his God; in his hands a sword for evil, in his heart a bit of a song-glad to live, but not afraid to die!

Such a man has found the only real secret of Masonry, and the one which it is trying to give to all the world.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **05/03 Stated Communications**
- **05/07 Fish fry 11:30AM – 2PM \$10.00**
- **05/17 Family night**
- **05/30 Grand Lodge starts**

<https://sharing.calendar.live.com/calendar/private/8475ca51-a587-4506-83d1-79f1e28124bc/f09a65b1-f35f-42ae-9433-709bd9e4221a/cid-636a2e106448b3b5/index.html>



## Lodge News

**Degree Team Members NEEDED! See W.: Robert C. St. John, Jr. 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.: Robert L.T. Phillips

**Catechism Instructors**

W.: Ray Manus

John Fincher

Jonathan Childers

# Committees

Committee	Chairman	Members
<b>Finance</b>	Bro. John Fincher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W.: Larry Gillespie,</li> <li>• W.: Arthur J. Ahrens III,</li> <li>• W.: Robert L.T. Phillips,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers</li> </ul>
<b>Vigilance</b>	Bro. John Fincher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. Dennis Hall,</li> <li>• Bro. George Grosskopf</li> </ul>
<b>Health and Welfare</b>	W.: Jack Holloway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W.: Robert L.T. Phillips,</li> <li>• W.: Thurman Bevin</li> </ul>
<b>Petitions</b>	W.:M.: Brice Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. John Fincher,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers,</li> <li>• W.: Ray Manus,</li> <li>• W.: David Mason</li> </ul>
<b>Masonic Education</b>	Bro. John Fincher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• W.:M.: Brice Cross,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers</li> </ul>
<b>Board of Relief</b>	W.:M.: Brice Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. John Fincher,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers,</li> <li>• Bro. Jeff Dove</li> </ul>
<b>Charity</b>	W.:M.: Brice Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. John Fincher,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers</li> </ul>
<b>Lodge Property</b>	Bro. John Fincher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers,</li> <li>• Bro. Steven Skeen,</li> <li>• Bro. George Grosskopf</li> </ul>
<b>Investigating</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed as needed</li> </ul>
<b>Catechism Instructors</b>	W.: Ray Manus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. John Fincher,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers</li> </ul>
<b>Lodge Mentor</b>	W.: Robert L.T. Phillips	
<b>Lodge Instructor</b>	W.: Robert C. St. John, Jr.	
<b>Attendance and Membership</b>	W.:M.: Brice Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. John Fincher,</li> <li>• Bro. Jonathan Childers,</li> <li>• W.: Robert L.T. Phillips</li> </ul>
<b>Transportation</b>	W.:M.: Brice Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. Dennis Hall,</li> <li>• Bro. Steven Skeen</li> </ul>
<b>Emeritus</b>	Bro. Jeff Dove	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bro. George Grosskopf,</li> <li>• W.: Robert L.T. Phillips</li> </ul>
<b>Special Events Coordination</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed as needed</li> </ul>

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

