



## Braidentown Council No. 9

### Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida

Minutes Regularly Stated Assembly  
 Wednesday February 11th, 2026/A: DEP: 3026  
 West Coast Lodge No 409

Companion Hans Heidi, Deputy Master called Braidentown Council No. 9 to order at 7:30PM. There being but 8 Companions present the Assembly was open in a business meeting forum-the following officers were present except as noted in red

<b>Justin "Judd" Broome-Sick</b>	<b>Illustrious Master</b>	<b>Joseph O'Donnell</b>	<b>Captain Guard</b>
<b>Hans Heidi</b>	<b>Deputy Master</b>	<b>E. Richard Coles IV</b>	<b>Cond. Council</b>
<b>Robert Leonard on cruise</b>	<b>Princ. Con. Work</b>	<b>Dan Luna</b>	<b>Stewart</b>
<b>W. Allen Sorbie, PIM Absent</b>	<b>Treasurer-</b>	<b>Todd Meschelle-working</b>	<b>Sentinel</b>
<b>John F. Wermann, PIM</b>	<b>Recorder-</b>		
<b>Gene Lance</b>	<b>Chaplain-</b>		
<b>Douglas "Doug" out of town</b>	<b>Marshal</b>		

There were 8 Companions present as per attendance register. (John Wermann, Richard Coles, Brian Johnsen, Hans Heidi, Joseph O'Donnell, Dan Luna, Gene Lance, Butch Thurman)

Sickness and Distress: Peper Mabray recovering from lung cancer surgery, Marcus of WC 409 going into the Masonic Home, Allen Sorbie going to have surgery 2/13/2026, , MDW has been sick, Judd Broome and Pul Ritchie has the flu, Kevin Oatman recovering from out patient surgery.

#### Special guest and York Rite recognitions 2025-2026

- Richard Coles IV, Rt. Illustrious Grand Principal Conductor of the Work representing the Grans Council of Royal and Select Asters of Florida.
- ~~Jonas Seda~~, Rt. Illustrious District Instructor and Grand Captain of the Guard, representing the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida.
- ~~Douglas "Doug" Dobbs~~, Rt. Illustrious District Deputy Grand Master representing the rand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida.

- Gene Lance, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal Arch Masons of Florida.
- ~~W. Allen Sorbie, Most Illustrious Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida, Manasota York Rite Mason of the Year 2024~~
- Albert “Butch” Thurman, Eminent Grand Senior Warden Representing the Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of Florida.
- ~~Gene Sims, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer representing the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida, Rt. Excellent District Instructor Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida.~~
- ~~Ray Brownlee, Eminent District Deputy Grand Commander, representing the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida.~~
- Brian Johnsen, Eminent District Instructor and Grand Ambassador to Ohio representing the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida.
- ~~Eduardo “Eddie” Sanchez, Rt. Excellent Grand District Deputy Grand Master, representing the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida.~~
- John F. Wermann, Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest representing the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, Most Excellent Grand Ambassador to Florida representing the General Grand Chapter RAM International, Rt Ex President Grand Brotherhood Past District Deputy Grand Masters, CMMRF Grand Representative and Rt Illustrious Grand Ambassador to Alaska representing the Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Florida.
- Joseph O’Donnell, Monarch Samoor Grotto, and Patron Bradenton Chapter No. 87 OES. And 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Florida State Grotto Association.

Honored Companions and Sir Knights 2025-2026:

1	Knight York Grand Cross of Honor (KYGCH) John Wermann, Allen Sorbie, Sheldon Arpad	2	Walter I Stevenson Award-Butch Thurman, John Wermann
3	Knight York Cross of Honor (KYCH) Brian Johnsen, Albert “Butch” Thurman, John Wermann, Allen Sorbie,	1	Adult Leadership Award-John Wermann, Robert Leonard
2	Grand Line Officers of any Body not DDGMs/ Dis Albert Thurman, Richard Coles	2	Cryptic Mason of the Year John Wermann, Brian Johnsen
1	Knight Templar Cross of Honor (KTCH) John Wermann	1	Order of The Purple Cross, Allen Sorbie, John Wermann, Sheldon Arpad
1	Grand Commanders Award (Top Line) Paul Ritchie, John Wermann		33 <sup>rd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite Masons, Sheldon Arpad
0	District Deputies of York Rite Bodies, Eduardo Snachez, Ray Brownlee, Douglas “Doug” Dobbs	1	Scottish Rite Knight Commander Court of Honor-Doug Dobbs, Allen Sorbie, John Wermann

1	District Instructors of York Rite Bodies—Brian Johnsen, Gene Sims	4	Past Heads of York Rite Bodies, not KYCH- Paul Ritchie, Richard Coles, Gene Lance, Douglas Dobbs, Justin Broome, Jeff Lawrence, J O'Donnell, Hans Heidi, Michael Blumin
5	Gold Key Award Brian Johnsen, Richard Coles, Butch Thurman, Gene Lance, John Wermann, Allen Sorbie, Judd Broome, Todd Meschelle	1	Grand Brotherhood Past District Deputy Grand Masters, Allen Sorbie, John Wermann (President)
4	Ish Sodi Award-Brian Johnsen, Paul Ritchie, Butch Thurman, Gene Lance, John Wermann, Jeff Lawrence, Richard Coles	2	Current heads of York Rite Bodies including Blue Lodge- Butch Thurman, John Wermann
5	Meritorious Service Award -John Wermann X's 2, Butch Thurman X's 2, Brian Johnsen, Allen Sorbie	1	First Responders Award-Butch Thurman, Robert Leonard, Paul Ritchie
1	Youth Advocate Award-Brian Johnsen, Doug Dobbs	2	M.I. Grand Masters Award (By Thomas Olsen) Doug Dobbs, Brian Johnsen, Paul Ritchie, John Wermann
2	Manasota York Rite Mason of the Year (started 2023)-Allen Sorbie, Paul Ritchie (2024), Daniel E. Dale, John L. Horne, Louis H. Ortt, Malcomb Ryder, B. John Ross, Eric B West, Gene Lance 2022, John F. Wermann (2012)	1	Sitting Masters, Joseph O'Donnell
1	Youth Advocate Award, Brian Johnsen, Douglas "Doug" Dobbs		

Minutes: Minutes of Assembly held January 15th, 2026, and proposed agenda for Assembly to be held February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 were distributed electronically. This communication contained the minutes, correspondence, warrants and receipts. If there is no objections, alterations, additions or deletions, the illustrious Master declared them approved as distributed.

Correspondence: The minutes and proposed agenda for our Assemblies were distributed via e-Mail. Reports from our investment company were turned over to our Treasurer. Giblymite Award Form sent to DDGM, RI Doug Dobbs 1/16/2026 (he was absent from January 15's meeting). Our annual return was submitted 1/6/2026. Allen Sorbie to attach a check and forward to the Grand Recorder/Treasurer.

Warrants: Numbered 225745 990N (\$54.99) & Corporation (\$61.24) filings, 225747 Lodge usage for 2025 West Coast Lodge No 409 \$700.00

Receipts: Numbered

Treasurer's Report: M.I. W. Allen Sorbie to present a Treasurer's reports for several months at net Assembly

Presentations:

Petitions for membership: The Illustrious Master ordered a ballot be spread for Thomas Praino, Chris Galeone, Shawn Singeisen. The ballot was clear.

Old Business:

- \* Install Douglas "Doug" Dobbs as Marshal-Absent
- \* MIPGM Allen Sorbie reported Tampa Y/R needs the SOB's help to confer the MEM and RA Degrees this was the outcome of his conversations with Tampa concerning a Tampa Y/R Festival March 7 & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026..They had original said they were not hosting a Spring Festival, and we were going to combine with Ft Meyers. What do we want to do...Allen Sorbie was to suggest that Tampa they work with Paul Friend for this festival. If necessary, they to reach out to SOBS for assistance. John Wermann to report results of his discussions with Ft Myers to establish a degree schedule in the Spring 2026.
- \* John Wermann informed Paul Friend we would not be available to assist with his Y/R Degree festival.
- \* Audet Committee appointed Paul Ritchie, Hans Heidi and Richard Coles. They to work with Allen Sorbie and determine a time and date to do the audit. Was this done?
- \* Secretary did send requested copy of his York Rite presentation and the presentation he and Jeff Lawrence wrote to EHP Justin "Judd" Broome. DONE
- \* High Priest to work on a District 2 & 3 to have a York Rite Night-report next meeting
- \* Braidentown Council gathered at The Family of God United Methodist Church at 5601 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue East in Palmetto on January 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:30AM for church service. We were warmly welcomed by the parishioners and Paster AI. After the service MIPGM Gene Lance gave us a tour of the Thrift Store he manages for the Church. Several Companions then went to Popies for Lunch. The following were in attendance Gene (Page 5 Of 5 Braidentown Council No. 9 Assembly Minutes February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026/A:DEP: 3026)

and Patsy Lance, Doug Dobbs, Richard Coles, Kevin Oatman, Judd Broome, Dan Luna, Michael Blunin, Hans Heidi and John Wermann. Excellent fellowship thanks to you MI

\* Souvenir Program add split with Council and Chapter and Commandery was approved. (1/3 \$200.00). requested Allen Sorbie do ad as in the past. Secretary to submit a Warrant. Both were done plus Officres listing sent to Allen

\* Up coming Degrees and Degree casts discussed

Masonic Education: None

Announcements:

Sarasota Chapter degree practice February 18<sup>th</sup> Sarasota Lodge 6:30PM

Sarasota Chapter will next meet on February 25, 2026, Sarasota Lodge No 147 6:30 practice and/or fellowship. The meeting will be at 7:30PM.

Braidentown Council will next meet March 11th, 2026, West Coast Lodge No 409 6:30 Fellowship, 7:30 Meeting, 600 7<sup>th</sup> Street West Palmetto.

Trinity Commandery will next meet March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at Scottish Rite Building, 240 South Tuttle Ave Sarasota 6:30 Fellowship 7:30 Meeting

Samoor Grotto will next meet February 19, 2026, at Scottish Rite Building 6:30PM

Master Mason Assoc will meet on February 26th, 2026, at Englewood Lodge. Dinner 6:00PM meeting 6:30PM. School of instruction to follow.

Master Mason Assoc annual picnic to be held in February 28 2026 at Twin Lakes  
Tampa Y/R Festival March 7 and 14, 2026

With all business having been brought before the Council and proper action taken. Our Deputy Master, hans Heidi closed Braidentown Council No 9 in busines form at 8:35PM.

Peace and Harmony prevailed!

Most Zealously and Most Fraternaly Submitted:

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John F. Wermann, MEPGHP, KYGCH, OPC  
Recorder

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Illustrious Justin "Judd" Broome  
Illustrious Master

Butch Thurman won the 50/50 drawing \$ 34.00  
Secretary also had drawings for Masonic items give-away.