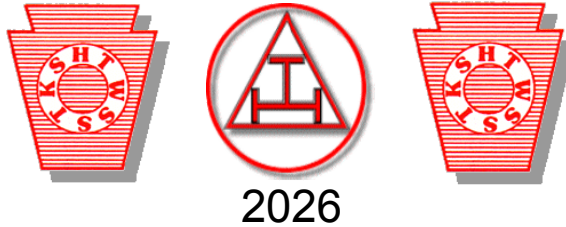


# Sarasota Chapter No 35 of The Most Excellent Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida



Minutes Stated Convocation held on February 25th 2026, A:I: 2556  
at Sarasota Lodge No. 147

Sarasota Chapter No 35 was called to order and opened in short form by Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest at 7:00Pm for work and instruction. All elected and appointed officers were in their stations except as noted below:

<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDENCE</b>			
<b>Justin “Judd” Broome</b>	<b>High Priest</b>	<b>Robert Leonard</b>	<b>Principle Soj</b>
<b>Albert “Butch” Thurman</b>	<b>King</b>	<b>Joseph O’Donnell</b>	<b>Royal Arc Cpt.</b>
<b>Brian Johnsen</b>	<b>Scribe-</b>	<b>Todd Meschelle-Working</b>	<b>Mast 3<sup>rd</sup> Veil</b>
<b>W. Allen Sorbie Recovering from surgery</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dan Luna</b>	<b>Mast 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil</b>
<b>John F. Wermann</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Arthur Southwell</b>	<b>Mast 1<sup>st</sup> Veil</b>
<b>Gene Lance</b>	<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Richard Coles</b>	<b>Sentinel</b>
<b>Hans Heidi</b>	<b>Capt. of Host</b>		

There were 21 Companions present above officers and Companions Robert Thurber, Gene Sims, Jackson Canavon, R.E. Edwardo Sanchanz Jr, Chri Prudy, Chuck Machell, Jeffrey Lawrence, Doug Dobbs, Kevin Oatman, Mario Charles

**Sickness and Distress:** Allen Sorbie recovering from surgery

**Special guests: Special Recognition York Rite 2025-2026**

- \* Eduardo “Eddie” Sanchez Right Excellent District Deputy Grand High Priest, representing the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida
- \* Rt Ex Gene Sims District Instructor Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Florida, Grand Sword Bearer Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Florida
- \* M.: Ex.: John F. Wermann, CMMRF District 2 Representative, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Florida 2012-2013 and 2013-2014, Most Excellent Grand Ambassador near Florida representing the General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons international, President of the Grand Brotherhood of Past District Deputy Grand Masters. R I Grand Ambassador for the Grand Council of Royal and elect Masters of Florida near Alaska
- \* Rt. Ill Richard Coles IV, Rt Ill Grand Principal Conductor of the Work for the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida

\* ~~Jonas Seda~~ Right Illustrious, Grand Captain of the Guard, and District Instructor, representing the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida,

- \* Doug Dobbs Right Illustrious District Deputy Grand Master, representing the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Florida
- \* Gene Lance, Most Illustrious Past Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of R & S Masters of Florida
- \* M I W. Allen Sorbie, Past Most Illustrious Grand Master R&S Masters of Florida, Manasota York Rite Mason of the Year 2023, Potentate Sahib Shriners in Sarasota.
- \* Eminent Albert "Butch" Thurman E. Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida
- \* Ray Browlee Eminent District Deputy Grand Commander, representing the Grand Commander of Knights Templar of Florida
- \* Eminent Brian Johnsen District Deputy Instructor and Grand Ambassador to the State of Ohio, for the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Florida for District 2.
- \* Joseph O'Donnell Semore Grotto Monarch, Rep OES Bradenton 87

**Introduction of Special Guests 2025-2026:**

3	Knight York Grand Cross of Honor (KYGCH) John Wermann, Allen Sorbie	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	2	Adult Leadership Award-John Wermann, Robert Leonard
2	Grand Line Officers of any Body not DDGMs/ Dis Albert Thurman, Richard Coles, Larry Gillespi	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
1	Grand Commanders Award (Top Line) Paul Ritchie, John Wermann	1	33 <sup>rd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite Masons
2	District Deputies of York Rite Bodies Doug Dobbs For the Council, Eduardo Sanachez	4	Scottish Rite Knight Commander Court of Honor-Doug Dobbs, Allen Sorbie, John Wermann
1	District Instructors of York Rite Bodies, Brian Johnsen	6	Past Heads of York Rite Bodies, not KYCH
8	Gold Key Award Brian Johnsen, Richard Coles, Butch Thurman, Gene Lance, John Wermann, Allen Sorbie, Todd Meschelle, Judd Broome	1	Grand Brotherhood Past District Deputy Grand Masters Allen Sorbie, John Wermann (President)
6	Ish Sodi Award-Brian Johnsen, Paul Ritchie, Butch Thurman, Gene Lance, John Wermann, Jeff Lawrence, Richard Coles, Todd Meschelle	3	Current heads York Rite Bodies including Blue Lodge Sitting Hans Heidi, Michael Blumin, Butch Thurman, Paul Ritchie (2), Doug Dobbs, John Wermann, Arthur Southwell
4	Meritorious Service Award -John Wermann X's 2, Butch Thurman X's 2, Brian Johnsen, Allen Sorbie	2	First Responders Award-Butch Thurman, Robert Leonard, Paul Ritchie
2	Manasota York Rite Mason of the Year (started 2023)-Allen Sorbie, Paul Ritchie, Daniel E. Dale, John L. Horne, Louis H. Ortt, Malcomb Ryder, B. John Ross, Eric West, John F. Wermann 2012, Gene Lance (2022)	2 _3_	Youth Advocate Award, Brian Johnsen, Doug Dobbs <hr/> MIGM's Award of Merit John Wermann, Paul Ritchie, Doug Dobbs, Brian Johnsen

The Excellent High Priest welcomed all in attendance, more especially our Ft Meyers Companions

**Minutes:** The Minutes of Convocations held on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and the proposed agenda for January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 were electronically distributed. These communications include all the minutes, correspondence, warrants and receipts. We also receive notifications by robo-call. If there be no objection, alterations, additions, or deletions, the Excellent High Priest MAY declare them approved as distributed.

As always all comments and/or suggestions are earnestly solicited. ....Passed

**Correspondence:** Distribution of minutes and agenda of meetings, Correspondence between the Secretary and Treasurer (including notices from Calton investments), and other important announcements. 4 Veils Award form snail mailed to Grand Secretary on January 15, 2026

**Receipts:** Cash Receipts Numbered

**Expenses:** Warrants numbered 206713 Closet rental Venice Lodge 2026 \$500.00, also Souvenir program Ad \$66.68, Warrant 026712 15 new Chapter Ritual Books \$375.00

**Treasurer's Report:** M.I. W. Allen Sorbie to be presented next month

**Petitions** EHP directed a ballot be spread for Thomas Praino, Chris Galeone, Shawn Singeisen. The ballot was clear and the Brothers approved to receive the Degrees of th Holy Royal Arch.

**Awards and Presentations:** None

**Old Business:**

\*  
\*

**New Business:**

\* A motion was made seconded, to pay rent to Venice Lodge for closet rental of \$500 each year. Unanimous. Warrant 026713 was issued and sent to our treasurer

\* It was moved seconded and passed to purchase 15 new Chapter ritual books. Unanimous Warrant 026712 was issued

**The Mark Master and Past Master Degrees** were conferred upon Thomas Praino, Shawn Singeisen and Chris Galeone

The following was the Degree Cast:

At 7:20 PM Mark Master Degree to be conferred February 25 at Sarasota Lodge No 147

<i>R. W. Master</i>	John F. Wermann	<i>Junior Overseer</i>	Kevin Oatman
<i>Senior Warden</i>	Joseph O'Donnell	<i>Senior Overseer</i>	Jeff Lawrence
<i>Junior Warden</i>	Dan Luna	<i>Master Overseer</i>	Richard Coles
<i>Marshall</i>	Albert Thurman	<i>Prologue &amp; Lecture</i>	Hans Heidi
<i>Senior Deacon</i>	Judd Broome	<i>Working Tools</i>	Dan Luna

The Charge to be read by Joseph O'Donnell

At 8:45 PM The past Master Degree was Brian Johnsen RWM, Gene Lance Sr Deacon, Jeffrey Lawrence Sr Warden

(Page 4 of 4 Sarasota Chapter No. 35 Minutes February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Sarasota Lodge No. 147)

**Announcements:**

- Sarasota Chapter will meet on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at Sarasota Lodge No. 147. 6:30PM Practice/fellowship, 7:30PM Meeting.
- Braidentown Council No 9 will me on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at West Coast Lodge No.409 6:30PM Practice/Fellowship, 7:30 PM Meeting.
- Trinity Commandery No. 16 will me on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at The Scottish Rite Building 240 Tuttle Ave, Sarasota 6:30PM Practice/Fellowship 7:30PM Meeting.

- Master Asson Assoc. will meet on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at Englewood Lodge. Dinner 6:00PM, Meeting 6:30 PM, A Lodge of Instruction 7:30PM.
- Samoor Grotto will meet on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at The Scottish Rite Building in Sarasota 6:00 Dinner 7:00 PM meeting.
- March 7<sup>th</sup> at Tampa York Rite the Royal Arch Chapter and Royal and Select Master Degrees will be conferred. See Secretary for information and if you would like to take part in the Degree work.

With all business having been presented and properly dispensed with. Sarasota Chapter No. 35 was closed in by proclamation by Most Excellent Past Grand High Priest, ME John F. Wermann at 9:25 PM

Peace and Harmony prevailed

Most Zealously and Most Fraternally Submitted

---

M.:E.: John F. Wermann, MEPGHP, KYGCH, OPC  
Broome  
Proud to serve as Secretary

Excellent Justin "Judd"  
Excellent High Priest

No drawing was held