



## The Rite Word

**From the Venerable Master**  
Brethren,

I hope you all and your families are well.

June seems to be an interesting month when it comes to the “lesser” holidays. An astounding 84 holidays in 30 days:

National Olive Day (June 1<sup>st</sup>)

National Egg Day (June 3<sup>rd</sup>)

National Cider Day (June 3<sup>rd</sup>)

National Cheese Day (June 4<sup>th</sup>)

And the list goes on with mostly food and entertainment celebration days.

During the shelter in place time, we may have re-appreciated cooking and eating at home. I certainly did, and after a few weeks I started dusting off those cooking books that I had not used for some time as I was stuck between eating out and cooking just my favorites at home. Creativity came back, and this may be the month to get even more inspiration what to cook, maybe some pork braised in cider, a cheesy omelet, or a Spanish inspired tapas plate with olives.



I talked to some friends, and they are setting up dinner on changing tables, making it more of a dining experience than just dinner. I tried it out myself, and will continue doing it, as it is a nice change in atmosphere.

I experience the same when working from home. When things get tiring, I change the scenery and work from the kitchen rather than living room, and feel inspired again.

Staying active, and avoiding the locked-in feeling as much as you can is important. We all can make this tolerable, and gain back things we were not able to do in our busy lives.

At the time of this writing, all hopes are still up for the shelter to be carefully lifted. I am awaiting the next milestone of this COVID-19 end of May, and the news what everyone as an individual, businesses, and we as Masons are allowed to do.

In the meantime, we will all “hang in there”, literally.

Happy Food-Month of June,

**Reminder (we will waive this if the prohibition is lifted between the 5h and the 8th)**

Reservations for Stated Meeting Dinner are due by Friday June 5th. If you do not make your reservation by that date, Dinner will cost \$20 if there is enough

## 2020 Honor Roll

Bro. Art Pasquinelli 32°  
Hon. Virgilio Quina 32° KCCH  
Bro. Jim Ward 32°  
Bro. Jonas Pauliukonis 32°  
Hon. Dell Bleiler 32° KCCH  
Ill. Richard Fisher 33°  
Bro. John Absalon 32°  
Hon. John Unger 32°  
Bro Ion Vasilescu 32°  
Bro TJ Jackson 32°  
Bro. Estil Johnson 32°  
Ill. Dee Ayre 33°

Make an annual Donation to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies in the amount of \$100 or more and have your name included on the "Honor Roll" Your gift allows the San Jose Bodies to provide the quality events that you deserve.

## Donations

Joan Finch  
Bro. William Provence 32°  
Bro. Peter Biggam 32°

In Memory of Bro. Jess Pack  
Ill. Richard Fisher 33°

Thanks for Supporting kids with Special Needs

Kristina Coram

## Called From Labor

Bro. Jesse Pack Jr. 32°  
April 24, 2020



"Soft and safe to thee,  
my Brother, be thy resting place"

## Sick or Distressed

Ill. Leo B. Mark 33°  
408-838-4764  
Calls/Visitors Welcome

**2020 - Lodge of Perfection**

<b>Venerable Master</b>	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
<b>Senior Warden</b>	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Bro. Naresh Rampershad 32°	408-660-0121
<b>Captain of the Host</b>	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805

**2020 - Chapter of Rose Croix**

<b>Wise Master</b>	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361
<b>Senior Warden</b>	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
<b>Junior Warden</b>	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
<b>Guardian of the Temple</b>	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079

**2020- Council of Kadosh**

<b>Commander</b>	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
<b>1st Lt Commander</b>	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
<b>2nd Lt Commander</b>	Ill. Jack Harris 33°	408-275-6326
<b>Marshal of Ceremonies</b>	Bro. Toby Vanderbeck 32°	650-722-1669
<b>Lt of the Guard</b>	Bro. David Kampschafer 32°	408-568-0978

**2020 San Jose Consistory**

<b>Master of Kadosh</b>	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
<b>Prior</b>	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
<b>Preceptor</b>	Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH	408-489-8128
<b>Marshal of Ceremonies</b>	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
<b>Captain of the Guard</b>	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088

**2020- General Officers**

<b>Personal Representative</b>	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
<b>Asst. to the Personal Rep.</b>	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730
<b>General Secretary</b>	Hon. Gregg Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
<b>Prelate</b>	Bro. Mark McEuen, 32°	408-251-3086
<b>Almoner</b>	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423
<b>Orator/Librarian</b>	Hon. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408-836-6792
<b>Tiler</b>	Hon. Tom Tefft, 32° KCCH	408-465-2585
<b>Director of Ceremonies</b>	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
<b>Assist. DoC</b>	Hon. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
<b>Chief Knight KSA</b>	Bro. Kaleo Gagne, 32°	669-888-6423

**Directors of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation**

<b>President</b>	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
<b>Secretary</b>	Hon. Gregg Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
<b>Director (exp 2022)</b>	Bro. Garrett Burrow, 32°	408-891-6746
<b>Director (exp 2022)</b>	Hon. Jeffory Toone, 32° KCCH	408-390-5016
<b>Director (exp 2020)</b>	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
<b>Director (exp 2020)</b>	Bro. Toby Vanderbeck 32°	650-722-1669
<b>Director (exp 2021)</b>	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
<b>Director (exp 2021)</b>	Hon. Brandon Duenas 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
<b>Venerable Master</b>	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
<b>Wise Master</b>	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361
<b>Commander</b>	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
<b>Master of Kadosh</b>	Hon. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
<b>Asst. to the Personal Rep.</b>	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730



**Ill. James Cole 33°**  
Sovereign Grand Commander  
Supreme Council A.A.S.R.  
Washington, D.C.



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.**  
Sovereign Grand Inspector  
General in California,  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite  
Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

***The Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of San Jose, in the Orient of California, acknowledge and yield all allegiance to the Supreme Council (Mother Council of the World) of the Inspectors General, Knights Commander of the House of the Temple of Solomon of the Thirty Third Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of freemasonry for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America.***

**From the Wise Master**

Well, May found us still sheltered in place. All Masonic activities still on hold. The Grand Master of California Masons will let us know when we can resume Masonic meetings and Dinner functions.



The June Stated Meeting and Dinner on the 9th are still not know. Hopefully it can go forward.

I ran across an Article titled "Home"

A word that today takes on a whole new meaning. In these troubled times, home can be so much more than a physical space.

Home is our workplace, our daycare, our school, our gym.

But above all things, home is a shelter. A place where we can retreat to, where we are protected, shielded, secure from the outside world.

A place where we can be our realest selves. And while these days it can be difficult to feel confined, remember what home is.

A sanctuary. A haven. A place where we will weather a storm that, like many others, also shall pass.

I am going to end all my remaining articles for 2020 with this phrase.

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and Friends who care, May you be blessed.

**From the Commander of Kadosh**

Last month I wrote the grave of Ill Edwin A. Sherman, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Grand Cross in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland held the heart of the Mexican Masonic martyr, Jose Ignacio Herrera y Cairo. Brother Cairo was born in Mexico in 1826 and became a surgeon in 1845. By 1856 he was the deputy governor of the Department of Jalisco.



During his short time in politics there were differences between his government and the military and clergy. At one point he brought the prelates of the Franciscan, Dominican, Carmelite and other religious orders to the government palace and rebuked them for encouraging the enemies of the government. The charges were denied. During this time, he appointed a special lawyer to defend the Indians in land disputes.

His health caused him to leave the political arena. He devoted himself to agriculture and provided free medical services in the towns surrounding his Hacienda de la Providencia

Unfortunately, his quiet life would soon take a tragic turn. One of his enemies accused him of having weapons at the Hacienda. A column of 500 soldiers was dispatched and took him prisoner on May 20, 1858. Early the next morning one of the officers went to the local pharmacy, obtained chloroform, brought it back to the Hacienda and administered it to Cairo. The drugged Cairo was taken to a tree in the main square, laid down and shot.

Sometime earlier, Cairo told his Masonic brothers that if he was ever murdered his heart should be preserved to show he had the heart of a man who died for his devotion to Masonic principles.

Cairo's heart was removed as a relic and he was buried outside the parish church. Shortly after Cairo's death the local governor declared him a hero, gave his family a life time pension and two divisions of the Federal Army were named in his honor.

In 1893 his heart was taken to Oakland and kept in the Masonic Temple. Next month, more about the burial in Oakland.

## From the Secretary

Brethren,

I want to keep you abreast of things as best as I can.

At this point the Grand Master Reception is canceled for this year. If we are allowed we will have the June Stated meeting, but that doesn't look good at this time. We will have another Virtual Meeting, this time via Zoom. Look to your emails for the invitation. To that end, over 40 of the emails I have on file for folks are no longer valid, so if you have changed your email in the last couple of years, please send me a note at [ghall@sanjosescottishrite.org](mailto:ghall@sanjosescottishrite.org) so we can have up to date information.

While not what we want, it is a great opportunity for those of our Brethren that are not local to join in on a meeting.

Next the Night of Instruction for June is canceled. We have rescheduled our Speaker, Hon. Jordan Yelnick for the December 1st Night of Instruction.

At the last Officers meeting it was determined that we need to raise our dues for next year. It has been over 12 years since we raised the dues and we have lost about 40% of our membership in that time, so revenue is way down. So effective for the 2021 year, dues will raise from \$121 to \$151. If this poses a hardship to anyone, they should contact me when the dues notices come out next year.

We also have adopted the alternate dues structure of a set amount plus per capita in calculating dues. This allows an automatic increase should Supreme increase Per Capita. (Note, we have heard nothing of such a proposal at this time). The set amount is \$125 and the Per Capita amount is \$26 to hit the \$151 amount of next year.

This will also mean that Life Memberships will be going up. So if you are interested in a life membership, please contact me now. We can even apply this years dues to the amount.



Age	Current	New
Under 49	\$2541	\$3171
50 - 54	\$2299	\$2869
55 - 59	\$2057	\$2567
60 - 65	\$1694	\$2114
Over 65	\$1331	\$1661

Finally, while we have been shut down, we have been doing a lot of work around the building. We have painted, just about every wall in the building. About the only thing left is the ceiling in the Dining rooms. We have replaced all the lighting in the kitchen and stage with modern LED's which provide better lighting at a fraction of the yearly operating cost. We are in the process of replacing the 250 or so florescent tubes in the dinning room with LED's. We have been cleaning and getting rid of stuff that has been accumulated through the years that we no longer use..

We are working on some upgrades, we are getting a new drape for the Stage. Adding a center channel speaker to the sound system so we can have better sound for things like movie nights. And we will be upgrading our stage lighting so that we can improve the degree experience.

I want to thank a few people that have been working lots of hours on these projects. First Ill. Ken Nagel who has been here almost every day since the Shut down. Hon. Brandon Duenas and Bro. Art Pasquinelli, who have put in many hours. Bro. Jimmy Reilley who is an actual Scottish Mason, who even though he doesn't belong to our Valley has spent many hours painting. And Angela, who has been leading our crew in deep cleaning the building.

We are down at the Valley every day, so if you have time stop by and take a look, I am sure you will be impressed.

## Twentieth Degree — Master of the Symbolic Lodge

When you hear the phrase "Symbolic Lodge" in Scottish Rite, it refers to the Blue Lodge. This degree offers some practical lessons for those brothers serving in the Master's chair.

### First Section

In the lodge room are three columns arranged in a right triangle, at the south, west, and east. The right triangle is featured in the 47th problem of Euclid. An altar stands in the middle.

Around the altar are nine lights (candles or electric), each in its own stand. One stand is placed on the east and west sides of the altar, three on the north, and four on the south.

The ceremony begins when the Master of Ceremonies brings the Candidate to the lodge room door, then raps three times. The Assistant Expert, inside the lodge room, opens the door and asks, "Who seeks admission here?" The Master of Ceremonies replies, "A Mason, who having attained the 19th Degree, desires to be here qualified to preside over the Symbolic Lodge; that he may better serve Masonry."

There is a series of questions and answers between the two officers in order to assure that the Candidate is a serious, active, worthy Mason. He is, so he is admitted.

The Master of Ceremonies conducts the Candidate to the altar where they remain standing. The Venerable Master asks the Candidate to read the words on each of the three columns — Toleration, Justice, and Truth. The Venerable Master then gives a brief explanation of those principles and asks the Candidate whether he agrees to them.

At this point, the Venerable Master invests the Candidate with collar, apron, and jewel; followed by an explanation of the duties of the presiding officer of a Lodge. He then directs the Candidate to symbolically perform his various duties as presiding officer "by restoring to us the splendor of our Nine Great Lights of Masonry".

The jewel of the 20th Degree is composed of three concentric triangles. The corner of each triangle represents one of the Nine Great Lights, listed in the next paragraph. At the center of the triangles is a Hebrew phrase ] אור יהי pronounced: yehi aur] meaning, "Let there be Light"; and the Tetragrammaton, which represents the name of God given to Moses, written in Phoenician script.

The Senior Warden directs Candidate to kindle each of the Nine Great Lights. Each light represents a specific quality: Veneration, Charity, Generosity, Heroism, Honor, Patriotism, Justice, Toleration, and Truth.

The officers, in succession, offer an invocation: "Let the great light of [ *quality* ] shine in our lodge", followed by a brief explanation of the quality, then says "Let there be light!" at which time the Candidate kindles the light. The officer continues, "The light shines!" He then tells the Candidate to repeat after him, "So let the light of [ *quality* ] shine in me!" Lastly, the officer picks up the light and exits the lodge room.

The Venerable Master gives the ninth and final invocation, for the

great light of Truth. After the candidate kindles the light, the Venerable Master has the Candidate repeat a short obligation.

Next, the Venerable Master displays the tracing board to the Candidate. The tracing board of this degree is an octagon. On its face are five squares and three triangles. Each square represents four specific qualities and each triangle represents three. Rather than repeat all 29 qualities here, I refer you to the *Scottish Rite Ritual, Monitor and Guide*, page 425.

The Venerable Master gives a final instruction to the Candidate, which includes an important statement: "...the progress of man is measured by the accomplishments of a few." It contrasts the difference between the great minds of the ages and the regular folk who live for little more than themselves (not criticising, just explaining). He invites that Candidate to listen to the wisdom of the ancient lawgivers.

The Venerable Master picks up the last light, and with the Candidate, exits the lodge room.

### Second Section

This section takes place in the Hall of Equity. The room is brightly lit. The Candidate is dressed in white. There are eight ancient lawgivers, referred to as "great sages". Each sage sits before a tall column with his name written on it. That helps you get the name right and hopefully recognize him from your history classes, those many years ago.

The ritual changes the titles of the officers in the second section but does not draw any equivalency with those of the first. The officers are President, First Councilor, Chancellor, Marshal, and Advocate.

The Marshal conducts the Candidate to each of eight great sages. You can find the speech that each sage gives in the *Scottish Rite Ritual, Monitor and Guide*, pages 426 through 428. Instead of repeating the speech in this article, I will mention a few interesting facts about each sage.

Sage I: Zarathustra, also known as Zoroaster, lived in the 6th century BCE. He envisioned a cosmic struggle between Ahura Mazda, a supreme wise and benevolent deity, and Angra Mainyu, Ahura's evil opponent. This concept, that good and evil have separate and competing sources, found its way in to Judaism late in the Babylonian Captivity (586 to 537 BCE) and subsequently into Christianity, as God versus Satan.

Zoroaster's moral code said that each person's duty was to make friends out of one's enemies, to make the wicked righteous, and to make the ignorant learned.

Continued on Page 7

Sage 2: Manu. That may be a title rather than a name, thus it may apply to multiple individuals. In the Hindu tradition, Manu was said to be the spiritual son of Brahma (Hindu creator deity), and great progenitor of mankind. One or more of the Manus authored 2,685 laws, written in Sanskrit, somewhere between 200 BCE to 200 CE.

Sage 3: Hermes. Thoth (Egypt) and Hermes (Greece) were the gods of writing and magic, also known as Mercury (Rome), messenger of the gods. Hermes is called "Trismagistus" (thrice great) because he was a philosopher, a priest, and a king. He is said to have written the Emerald Tablet, containing the secret of the *prima materia* (original material of the universe) and its transmutation (conversion), which are the keys of alchemy and the philosopher's stone.

Sage 4: Confucius, also known as Kǒng Qiū, was a Chinese philosopher who lived around 551 to 497 BCE. His philosophy, Confucianism, emphasized personal and governmental morality, correctness of social relationships, justice, kindness, and sincerity. It is actually more a philosophy than a religion. It includes family loyalty, ancestor veneration, and respect of elders by their children and of husbands by their wives, and suggests that family is a basis for ideal government. That may be a key to better understanding the actions of the Chinese government during recent events.

Sage 5: Moses, whom we saw in the 14th Degree. Moses is best known for receiving the Ten Commandments straight from God himself. He also received a collection of 603 additional commandments, or duties, that form the basis of the Torah in Judaism. One of those is the concept retribution for civil wrongs, "an eye for an eye" found in the Bible, Exodus 21:22-25 and Leviticus 24:19-21. Some people take it literally but such was not the intention. The idea was to make retribution proportional to the injury. As Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

Sage 6: Hammurabi, the 6th king of Babylon, and the 1st king of Babylonian empire, ruled from 1792 to 1750 BCE. The Code of Hammurabi predates the Law of Moses. It was written in the Akkadian language using cuneiform script. It consists of 282 laws, with scaled punishments, graded based on social status and gender. Half of the code deals with matters of contract, liability, and property. The code also deals with inheritance, divorce, paternity, and reproductive behavior. One provision establishes that a judge who alters his decision after it is written down is to be fined and removed from the bench permanently.

Sage 7: Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome, reigned from 715 to 673 BCE. That was centuries before the Roman Empire and the Caesars. He was a widower and led a life of austerity prior to his election as king. Numa was said to have

authored several "sacred books" of divine teachings, mostly from the gods and the Muses. About half of these books were thought to cover the priesthoods he had established or developed and their rituals. The other books dealt with philosophy. The story goes that Numa was buried with his writings. They were recovered nearly 500 years later when his tomb was accidentally exposed. The Roman Senate examined Numa's writings and decided they were not appropriate for disclosure to the people. So they had them burned.

Sage 8: Alfred the Great, king of the west saxons 871 to 886 CE; and king of the anglo-saxons 886 to 899 CE. He is remembered for his defense of southern England against the Vikings. Alfred reorganized the military tax system to pay for the defense, and improved the navy by building ships that were twice the size of the rival Viking longboats. He encouraged education and proposed that primary education be conducted in Anglo-Saxon (Old English) rather than Latin. He improved the legal system and his people's quality of life. He is the only king of England to be given the title "Great". By the way, the name Alfred means "wise elf".

While the Candidate is still standing in front of Alfred, the First Councilor gives a brief lecture about a Master's duty when he is called to judge between contending parties or ideas. The man who does the judging must be dispassionate, upright, impartial, and just — as much as humanly possible.

Next, the President gives a lecture quoting Socrates, the Athenian philosopher. Then he talks about "one wiser than Socrates, from the Roman province of Judea, who said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive other men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." That comes from the Bible, Matthew 6:14-15. To be forgiven of God, you must forgive everybody who has ever hurt or offended you. To forgive is much more challenging than simply to believe.

The Marshal conducts the Candidate to the East and seats him in front of the President. After a period of silence, the President gives a longer lecture, noting that the value of this Degree is not in the ritual but in its lessons. He adds that if a man who receives this

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# Stated Meeting Menu

## Tuesday

### June 9 2020

(Vegetarian Entrée by REQUEST ONLY,  
by June 5th )

Call the Office **NOW** at 408-978-7483 &  
make your reservations!

Dinner is TBD depending on if we can hold the  
meeting or not.



Special Thanks to Craig Hall at Gray's Paint  
for donating and discounting the paint we  
have used in the building.

**Illustrious James D. Cole, 33°**  
*Sovereign Grand Commander*  
Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

**Tuesday, November 10, 2020**  
San Jose Scottish Rite Center  
2455 Masonic Drive  
San Jose, CA

6:00 p.m. Members Only Stated Meeting  
6:30 p.m. Member and Guest Social

**Dinner Following Social**  
with Ill. James D. Cole, 33° Presenting

For Reservations Call or E-Mail:  
(408) 978-7483 or [ghall@sanjosescottishrite.org](mailto:ghall@sanjosescottishrite.org)

THE SCOTTISH RITE MYSTERIES  
AN ESOTERIC JOURNEY

**September 12, 2020**

Sacramento Scottish Rite  
6151 H Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819

Cost: \$25.00 in advance or \$45.00 which includes commemorative coin and lapel pin.  
Cost: \$30.00 at the door or \$50.00 which includes commemorative coin and lapel pin.

We accept Master Card, Visa, American Express, Discover and PayPal

Information: 916-452-5881 or E-mail Mario Balbiani:  
[MBALBIANI@SACRAMENTOSCOTTISHRITE.ORG](mailto:MBALBIANI@SACRAMENTOSCOTTISHRITE.ORG)





Pictures of the work being done around the building.

Degree has not learned the wisdom of leniency and indulgence, he has advanced too far in his Scottish Rite journey. Masonry teaches to be truly wise, a man must be kind and courteous, charitable toward other men's motives, and to be distrustful of his own ability to resist the influences of temptation, prejudice, and passion.

Suddenly the lights begin to lower and the Marshal puts a cloth over the Candidate's head.

The First Counselor exclaims, "May the day perish for the Mason who lives basely and acts unworthily! May his day be darkness! Let not God regard it from above, neither let the light shine upon it! Let gloom and the shadow of death darken it, a cloud dwell upon it, and the blackness of eclipse and night terrify it!"

All of the officers say, "Amen! Amen!"

The lights return to full brightness and the Marshal removes the cloth from the Candidate's head.

The President invokes a blessing upon the Mason who performs his duties, keeps his vows, and lives usefully.

Then the Chancellor comments on the Hebrew word מִשְׁפָּט [pronounced: mish 'pät'], which means judgement and justice in the context of the 20th Degree. In modern Hebrew, mishpat is the word for a body of law. The Chancellor recalls the Kabbalistic Tree of Life, with its 10 emanations of God, displayed in the 4th Degree.

The Marshal then conducts the Candidate to a seat with the rest of the class.

Finally, the Advocate rises, addresses the class, and presents a charge reiterating the duties of a Master of the Symbolic Lodge and how the altar, Holy Bible, and working tools in the lodge room will remind the Master of his duties.

At this juncture, the Lodge of Masters is closed.

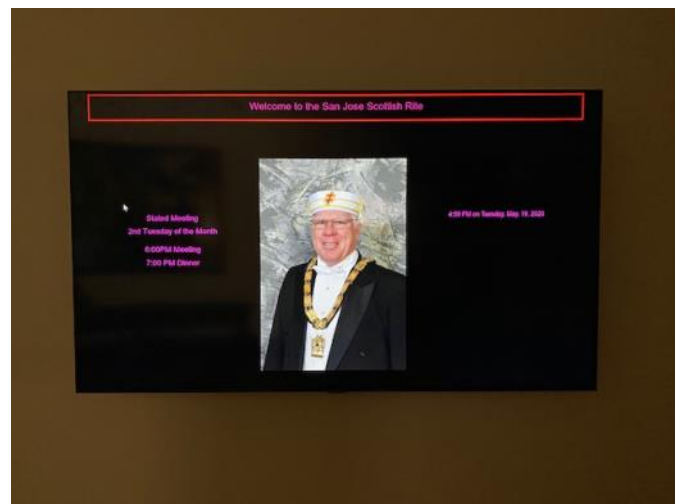
**Did I read that right?**

In the chapter on the 20th Degree in *Morals and Dogma*, Albert Pike tells us, "As Grand Master of all Symbolic Lodges, it is your especial duty to aid in restoring Masonry to its primitive purity. You have become an instructor. Masonry long wandered in error. Instead of improving it, it degenerated from its primitive simplicity, and retrograded toward a system, distorted by stupidity and ignorance, which, unable to construct a beautiful machine, made a complicated one. Less than two hundred years ago, its organization was simple, and altogether moral, its emblems, allegories, and ceremonies easy to be understood, and their purpose and object readily to be seen. It was then confined to a very small number of Degrees."

*Morals and Dogma* was first published in 1871, so going back 200 years fixes the period "a very small number of Degrees" in the late 17th century. We are looking at the historical period *after* the first purely speculative Lodges appeared but *before* the development of a separate Master's or Third Degree. And a century before the appearance of the Rite of Perfection or Rite of the Royal Secret, later to become the Scottish Rite.

Let's do the math. Pike seems to be saying the primitive purity of Masonry existed in the late 1600s. Since that time, Masonry has degenerated into a needlessly complicated system, evidently consisting of numerous Degrees. What system is he talking about? Perhaps the 29 degrees of the Scottish Rite? This would not be the first time a Masonic authority unconsciously contradicted himself.

III. Daniel Doornboss 33°



New Digital Message Board in the Lobby  
Revamped Picture Wall



**III. Roger Bibb 33° Class**

**Oct 13, 23,24, and Nov 3, 2020**



ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY,  
SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

**Petition for Degrees**

(Full) Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME LAST NAME DATE

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Month, Day, and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a US Citizen? YES  NO  If "No", where are you a citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Wife/Partner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Years as M.M.: \_\_\_\_ Blue Lodge Name \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

Lodge City and State: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place Raised: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Employer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever previously petitioned for any Scottish Rite Degrees? YES  NO

Hat Size: \_\_\_\_ (example: "7 1/8")

**"I, the above named and below signed, confirm a belief in a Supreme Being, the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order, and an undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and the forbearance of a state sponsored religion, principles embodied by the Founding Fathers of the United States of America. I respectfully petition to receive the 4th through 32nd Degrees of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. I am currently a Master Mason in good standing."**

_____	<b>Degree Fee</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Fall</b>
<i>Candidate's Signature</i>		\$150	\$150
_____	<b>Annual Dues</b>	\$50	\$0 (For Current Year)
1st Sponsor PRINTED NAME			
_____	<b>Total Due:</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$150</b>
<i>1st Sponsor Signature</i>			

2nd Sponsor PRINTED NAME \_\_\_\_\_ I hereby authorize the San Jose Scottish Rite to charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 to Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ CVC \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*2nd Sponsor Signature* Expiration Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

(Return Petition to Valley General Secretary's Office)

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of authorized card holder*



## THE RITE WORD

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San Jose, CA 95125-2036

Phone: 408-978-7483

e-mail: mail@sanjosescottishrite.org

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We, the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation( TIN 94-2541623), hereby certify that all funds received on the behalf of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation, The Children's Language Disorders Clinic, and/or the San Jose Scottish Rite Scholarship funds are used for charitable purposes only and the donor receives no goods or services in return for their donation.\*

"The Rite Word (USPS #3043) is published monthly by the San Jose Scottish Rite at 2455 Masonic Dr., San Jose, CA 95125. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Jose, CA. 95125 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **The Rite Word**, 2455 Masonic Drive San Jose CA 95125"

## **Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events**

**Tuesday June 9th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 5:45 pm**

Lodge of Perfection Opens - Business Casual Dress

**Thursday June 11th ~ SCVOA Meeting 6:30 pm**

Mt Moriah #292

**Tuesday July 14th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Consistory Opens—Business Casual Dress

**Tuesday July ?? ~ SCVOA Meeting 6:30 pm**

Palo Alto Lodge #346

**Tuesday August 14th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Consistory Opens—Business Casual

**Thursday August 20th ~ SCVOA Meeting 6:30 pm**

Friendship Lodge #210

**Saturday September 12th ~ The Scottish Rite Mysteries**

Sacramento Scottish Rite

**Tuesday November 10th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm**

Grand Commander's Visit