



The Rite Word

From the Venerable Master

If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we are not really living.

Growth demands a temporary surrender of security.

—Gail Sheehy

Greetings and as spring continue to unfold, so do our lives. Reminds me of the famous Greek myth of spring created one of the first metaphors of life, death and rebirth. That being the story of Persephone, the daughter of Demeter, the Goddess of the Harvest.

Persephone was the daughter of Zeus and Demeter. She became the queen of the underworld after her abduction by Hades, the god of the underworld. She returned only after her mother mourned so deeply that she let nothing grow and mankind was starving. Zeus the king of the gods intervened to allow her to return, but having eaten the food of the dead, namely 6 pomegranate seeds, she was required to return for six months each year. This set the stage for the annual changing of the seasons. As such, the myth of her abduction and return to the surface represents her functions as the embodiment of spring and the personification of vegetation, which sprouts from the earth in spring and disappears into the earth after harvest. In Classical Greek art, Persephone is invariably portrayed robed, often carrying a sheaf of grain, perhaps



this was even corn to accompany wine and olive oil, also persistent in Greek society. Also interestingly, May is named for Maia, the Greek Goddess of the Earth.

In our case, after the long winter of our lives be closed down with the pandemic, we now have the good news that we are able to meet in person again, albeit under some restrictions. I myself am looking forward to seeing everyone again as soon as we are able to do so safely. I know that our Valley is working to comply with the directions set forth by the Grand Master for us to return to meeting in person. This will be nice, but I will miss the short commute to my home office for meeting in Zoom.

Also, this month is May Day and the Eta Aquariids and the Arieteds meteor showers. I usually miss them as it is too foggy where I live, and I am otherwise busy on the 1st to run around a pole. May's birthstone is the Emerald, normally green in color and perhaps another coincidental reference to earth. On May 2nd is the National Day of Reason, which is a sound celebration in these interesting times.

Lastly, May is National Smile Month. Let's all flash those pearly whites, while we still have them. While we have much to look forward to, there is still work to be done and good Masons to do it.

Next Month – Form and Content, the balance of being.

Mark Burger

Please look at page #2 for information regarding restarting holding in person meetings. We are aiming for it to start at the June Stated meeting. Please look for further information in next months Rite Word.

2021 Honor Roll

Bro. Neofito Santos 32°

Ill. Richard Fisher 33°

Ill. Durward Ayre 33°

Bro. Lewis Bisconer 32°

Bro. Estil Johnson 32°

Bro. Dennis Griffin 32°

Hon. Bennie Cooper 32°

Bro. Art Pasquinelli 32°

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.

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Bro. James Bell 32°

Bro. Laurentino Del Carmen 32°

In Memory of Leo Mark

Bro. Junior Bishop 32°

In Memory of Hershel Amos

Bro. Junior Bishop 32°

Called From Labor

No Deaths Reported this month

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



In Person Meetings

The Grand Master has said we can start holding in person meetings. The caveat is that in order to attend you will have to be either fully vaccinated or have a negative test within 72 hours.

The officers have decided that the May meeting will be zoom and we are trying to get ready to resume starting in June.

We will also have a new reservation system in place where you will need to pre register for the meeting so that we can know who is in attendance.

Proper safety procedures will be followed.

Meetings will include dinners when we resume.

Look for further information in the June Rite Word.

2021 - Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Senior Warden	Hon. Brandon Duenas, 32° KCCH	408-763-7696
Junior Warden	Bro. Naresh Rampershad 32°	408-660-0121
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
Captain of the Host	Bro. Art Pasquinelli, 32°	408-483-9361

2021 - Chapter of Rose Croix

Wise Master	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
Senior Warden	Bro. Timothy Lynch 32°	408-386-2746
Junior Warden	Ill. Randy Downey 33°	408-674-8341
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Alan Worley 32°	650-281-1574

2021- Council of Kadosh

Commander	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
1st Lt Commander	Ill. Jack Harris 33°	408-858-9054
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Toby Vanderbeek 32°	650-722-1669
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. David Kampschafer 32°	408-568-0978
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Peter Cardilla 32°	831-214-9012

2021 San Jose Consistory

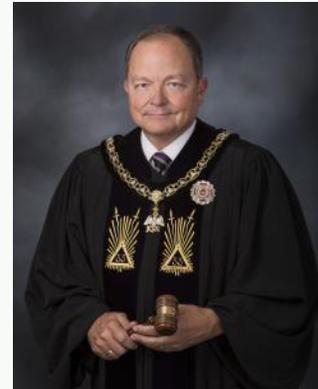
Master of Kadosh	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
Prior	Hon. John Unger 32° KCCH	408-489-8128
Preceptor	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Marshal of Ceremonies	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
Captain of the Guard	Hon. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822

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Asst. to the Personal Rep.	Ill. H. Bud Ramsey, 33°	408-838-3730
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Treasurer	Bro. Rick Qiu 32°	408-420-8173
Prelate	Bro. Mark McEuen, 32°	408-251-3086
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Director (exp 2023)	Bro. Toby Vanderbeek 32°	650-722-1669
Director (exp 2021)	Bro. Sean Patrick 32°	505-400-5805
Director (exp 2021)	Hon. Brandon Duenas 32°KCCH	408-763-7696
Venerable Master	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Wise Master	Hon. Martin Maxey, 32° KCCH	831-402-4903
Commander	Ill. Charles Cowden, 33°	831-685-3416
Master of Kadosh	Bro. John Absalon, 32°	909-660-9983
Asst. to the Personal Rep.	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

I ended last month with the question of unity. And that very unity is defined in Psalm 133 as brethren dwelling together in unity. That unity being like the precious ointment that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard. The other beard referred to here is God's.



This particular ointment is mentioned in Exodus 30 verse 22. I encourage all to read all of Exodus 30 to understand God's place in the temple and the expectations of those in the temple.

I would make note that this ointment or consecrating oil was for a specific purpose and had quite a nice fragrance. This was placed in the hands of others and not just the High Priest. There is a prohibition to not make it for any other purpose other than to consecrate the priests and the implements of the temple. God provided a temptation for the perfumer to test that separation; a separation that man has made for himself. Note here also that the temptation was provided by God. Also note that God provided the temptation in the garden

The bottom line is that not all temptations are provided by Satan. God will test your integrity, honor, honesty and humility. Next month I hope to share more on Maundy Thursday and who really attended the events at Pilate's house.

As the officers know we should have some hope of getting back to live meetings soon. I am sure Illustrious Ken will share quite a lot on this subject.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Mary".

From the Commander of Kadosh
May 31, is the 220th anniversary of the founding of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction of the USA.



From Darkness to Light

As I continue my series of articles on the Masonic initiation lets briefly ponder on my definition of Freemasonry and a few thoughts on the Masonic initiatic experience. So here we go.

"Freemasonry is a modern-day Mystery School which, by its progressive, moral science lessons, is a transformational experience taking an initiate from darkness to light through its ancient teachings and the practice of the lessons inculcated in it."

I have always found the idea that Masonry is an organization that "allows good men to become better men" most unsatisfactory. It seems to me that saying could just as well apply to the Rotarians, Lions or many other worthy groups who do good work. I think the definition I proffer implies a more spiritual journey and I believe that Masonic mystic teachings offer an ideal path to follow to find further light.

With that in mind, I think each of us should think about our own initiation experience and what our Lodge/s provide to a duly and truly qualified candidate for our mysteries.

Is it possible to provide this experience in 90 to 180 days which is rather typical in our Lodges today? I think not. It reminds me of the military "90-day wonder." This phrase refers to the practice of creating second lieutenants in 90 days during WW II. I don't think Masonry is faced with a time crisis so what is the rush?

I always like to think in qualitative rather than quantitative terms when it comes to considering applicants for our valuable philosophy of life. Not every good man who

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From the Master of Kadosh

I hope everyone is doing well and in good health. Our days of solitude are almost over as we see the light at the end of the tunnel as the new state and local guidelines have been released, together with the new SPP guidelines from the Grand Lodge, we can soon see each other in person. Although it would be a great undertaking, everything starts with the first step, and eventually, we would overcome these hurdles and finally somewhat feel normal again.



When we think about artificial islands, the most iconic of these is the Palm Islands of Dubai, which consists of Palm Jumeirah, Deira Island and Palm Jebel Ali, located on the coast of Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The construction of these islands started around 2001. Advanced tools and equipment together with satellite-mapping technology were used to accomplish this great feat. Although only a few years has passed, a study in 2006 by scientists show that the land reclamation project was experiencing radical erosion and is sinking 0.20 inches a year. Some ancient sites has the same layout, an artificial island complex, built some time around 900 years ago, Join me as we take a quick look at Angkor Wat.

Angkor Wat is located roughly five miles north of the modern Cambodian city of Siem Reap, which has a population of more than 200,000 people Angkor Wat is an enormous Buddhist temple complex located in northern Cambodia. It was originally built in the first half of the 12th century as a Hindu temple. Spread across more than 400 acres, Angkor Wat is said to be the largest religious monument in the world. Its name, which translates to “temple city” in the Khmer language of the region, references the fact it was built by Emperor Suryavarman II, who ruled the region from 1113 to 1150, as the state temple and political center of his empire.

Originally dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu, Angkor Wat became a Buddhist temple by the end of the 12th century. Although it is no longer an active temple, it serves as an important tourist attraction in Cambodia, despite the fact it sustained significant damage during the autocratic rule of the Khmer Rouge regime in the 1970s and in earlier regional conflicts. However, when it was built, it served as the capital of the Khmer empire, which

From the Chief Knight

Fraternal Greetings Brethren,
Family, and Friends,

After our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Arthur Weiss, gave his 45-minute talk about re-opening our in person gatherings, I was reflecting on how much I

miss seeing my brothers and their spouses. I finally see a light at the end of the tunnel. I encourage all of you to familiarize yourselves with the meeting requirements, do your part to keep each other safe, and enable us to once again meet in person.

Doing our part and preparations, the Knights of Saint Andrew will be having a virtual stated meeting on Sunday, May 2nd, 2021 at noon. It is my sincere hope to connect with as many of you there, especially if you are interested in becoming a fellow Knight. Please send your contact information to our Secretary, Sir Knight Angelo Encarnacion at aencarnacion@gmail.com if you would like the dial-in information to join the meeting.

As always, the Knights look forward to helping any of our members in need. Fraternal Love,

ruled the region at the time. The word “Angkor” means “capital city” in the Khmer language, while the word “Wat” means “temple.” Initially, Angkor Wat was designed as a Hindu temple, as that was the religion of the region’s ruler at the time, Suryavarman II. However, by the end of the 12th century, it was considered a Buddhist site. Unfortunately, by then, Angkor Wat had been sacked by a rival tribe to the Khmer, who in turn, at the direction of the new emperor, Jayavarman VII, moved their capital to Angkor Thom and their state temple to Bayon, both of which are a few miles to the north of the historic site.

As Angkor Wat’s significance within the Buddhist religion of the region increased, so too did the legend surrounding

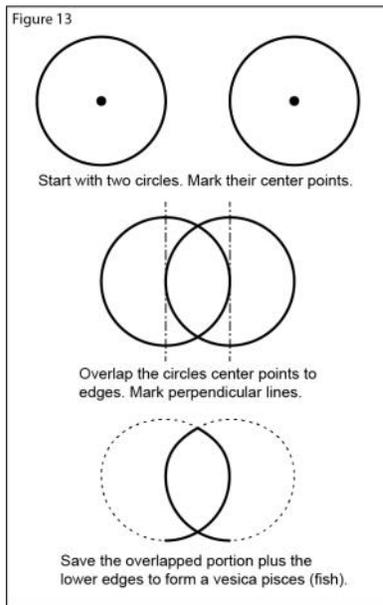
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Twenty-Seventh Degree — Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept Continued from last month

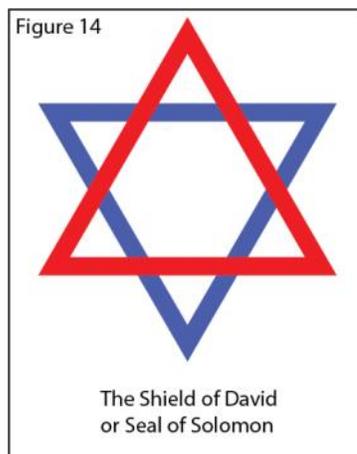
Hanael's Lesson

Next we hear from a brother in a blue robe named Hanael whose specialty is religious symbolism. Hanael tells us that we are already familiar with many religious symbols, such as the Tessera described in the 26th degree. It was a broken tile that the early Christian brothers used to identify each other. Soon thereafter, they began to use the symbol of a fish. You no doubt recall a saying Jesus used to recruit his disciples: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19 NKJV. The astrologers add that Jesus lived in the Age of Pisces, which uses the symbol of two fish.



To draw the fish symbol, you make two arcs. Or you can make it from two circles. In the 2nd century some Christian adopted the cross as their symbol. We learned a little about the cross in the 18th degree. The vertical line represents spiritual things while the horizontal line represents earthly things. The union of spiritual and earthly was understood to be the goal of the Messiah or Christ.

Another familiar symbol that appeared during the Middle Ages (from the 5th to the late 15th century) was the Magen David, Shield (or Star) of David, today the recognized symbol of modern Jewish identity and Judaism. Medieval Kabbalists, and many Masonic authors, refer to it as the Seal of Solomon.



The Shield of David / Seal of Solomon is formed by two overlapping triangles. One triangle points upward, symbolizing man's aspiration to reach God. The other triangle points downward, representing the willingness of the Spirit of God to descend into man.

If you look closely, you can see how the elemental signs for earth, air, fire, and water might be found in the Shield / Seal.

Next, Hanael describes the art of gematria, a kind of alpha-numeric code of assigning a numerical value to a name, word or phrase based on its letters. We have already seen how letters were also used as numbers. Now we will see how a single letter can be a religious symbol.

Figure 15

40 + 10 + 5 + 30 + 1 + 8 + 6 + 200 = 300

ם י ה ל א ו ח ר ש = 300

In Hebrew letters:

- The words "Spirit of God" have a combined numeric value of 300.
- The letter ש (shin) has a numeric value of 300.
- Therefore ש can also mean "Spirit of God".

In this example, we take the Hebrew characters for Spirit of God, shown from right to left.

Their values add up to 300. The character "shin" specifically represents the number 300. Thus we can use "shin" as a symbol for the Spirit of God. Hanael sits down before a banner showing sign of the planet Venus ♀♁.

Raphael's Lesson

Now we hear from a brother in an indigo robe named Raphael whose specialty is the symbolism of the Hermetic philosophers, which were mentioned earlier in the ritual. Hermetic philosophers brought us the science of alchemy. Alchemy is the medieval forerunner of chemistry, based on the supposed transformation of matter. It was concerned particularly with attempts to convert base metals into gold or to find a universal elixir.

Alchemy is considered a protoscience, meaning that it works with the same elements as chemistry, but also assigns qualities to the elements that we later disproven. The Aristotelian elements are the familiar earth, air, fire and water. To these Paracelsus, the 16th century Swiss physician/philosopher added mercury or quicksilver, salt, and sulfur.

Alchemists are known for their supposed ability to turn base metals, such as lead, into gold. But the gold the Alche-

mists were thinking of was something different. Alchemical gold is like a universal medicine in liquid form. Lead represented man in his default form. Gold represents man transformed into a perfected, meaning complete, state. The process involves discovery and use of truth, combined with temperance, tranquility of the soul, and simplicity of character that leads to happiness, wellbeing, and strength. We must accept that we are the authors of our own destinies and that God does not save us without our cooperation.

Raphael has no graphics to accompany his lesson. When he is done, he sits down before a banner showing sign of the planet Mercury ☿.

Gabriel's Lesson

Then we hear from a brother in a violet robe named Gabriel, who introduces us to a peculiar and complex symbol called a "Rebis" (pronounced REH·biss). The Rebis is the end product of the alchemical "magnum opus" or great work. The word Rebis comes from the Latin "res bina", meaning dual or double matter. Do not confuse it with a rebus, a puzzle in which words are represented by combinations of pictures and individual letters.



The Rebis itself is a combined male and female character, the Red King and White Queen. They are said to be the product of the union of Mars, representing the masculine force, and Venus, representing the feminine force.

The planetary symbols for Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn surround the Rebis. They contribute to an entire spectrum of celestial influences and qualities. Mercury sits at the top and in between the two heads, the divine communicator as well as relating to quicksilver, one of the three alchemical elements.

The circle on which the Rebis stands contains a square and triangle. The triangle is spiritual, while the square is material, symbolically linked to many things terrestrial: four seasons, four compass points, etc. The 4 and the 3 are the number of sides each has, and together they make seven, the number of completion, based on the creation of the world in seven days.

Circles are also linked with the divine, but square crosses are material for the same reason as squares, and a circled cross is the symbol for Earth as well as alchemical salt.

The Rebis holds two objects. On the left is a compass, which is used with circles. It is held by the male half, which represents spiritual qualities. The female holds a square, used to measure right angles in squares and rectangles, thus representing the material world, with which women are also associated.

The dragon in alchemy represents the prime matter, as well as the third alchemical element: sulfur. The winged dragon suggests ascension, a merging of material and spiritual. Fire is a common transformative symbol.

By the way, Paracelsus made significant contributions to the field of medicine. He is best known for the principle of toxicology, "The dose makes the poison". For example, a particular substance might be an essential vitamin or mineral for your body's metabolism. But taking too much might make you sick or even kill you. The same holds true in medicine, as seen in deaths from overdoses of opioid medication taken for pain relief. Gabriel sits down before a banner showing sign of the Moon ☾.

Brother Truth's Lesson

Now Brother Truth reappears and begins his second lecture. He describes how symbols conceal as well as reveal. Like the apple mentioned earlier in the lecture, it can symbolize food, a kind of fruit, temptation, or knowledge. When you think of the apple as representing knowledge you overlook its meaning as food.

Brother Truth goes on to explain that we do not invent a dogma, rather, we veil a truth, and it produces a shadow favoring weaker eyes. An initiator is not an imposter but a revealer, according to the Latin word "relevare" (pronounced reh·vel·AH·rey), one who veils something anew. The initiator thus creates a new shadow. Deep truths are not obvious to the casual observer, they require thought and study.

Brother Truth explains the example of the rainbow, created by sunlight passing through the prisms of tiny water particles. We noted these colors in the robes worn by the angels in this degree. One prism displays the colors that make up white light. A second prism can combine those colors back into white light again.

Light is an ancient symbol of truth because it reveals the world to us. As visual light reveals the physical world, spiritual light reveals the soul. Most of us are accomplished at using visual light. Spiritual light is more of a challenge.

Brother Truth finishes with a discussion of colors in Masonry starting with the Blue Lodge, whose covering is said to be the starry canopy of heaven. Then there is Red Masonry, derived from the Council of Princes of Jerusalem, whose degrees relate the struggles of Zerubbabel and his people

restoring the city of Jerusalem and the Temple. Green Masonry comes from the Knight Masons of Ireland.

In the modern Scottish Rite, the predominant colors are red, green, and white. You can find at least one of them in the regalia of every degree. The Hermetic arts provide a clue to their deeper meaning. Green, a symbol of birth and the natural state. Red, a symbol of action and activity. White, a symbol of a state of perfection, resulting from the natural world is transformed by that activity. Brother Truth sits down.

Father Adam and Brother Truth's Q&A

Then Father Adam reenters the room and takes a seat. He asks, "Why is this degree called Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept?" Brother Truth responds, "It is called Knight of the Sun because the sun is the source of material light that reveals nature to us. It is a symbol of the divine light that illuminates the mind. It is called Prince Adept because those who can read the symbols of the Book of Nature are Princes among Masons and Adepts among men."

Then Father Adam asks, "What are the most important lessons that these Brethren (referring to the Scottish Rite brothers) must take from this degree?" Brother Truth answers, "That symbols are real, they are the language of the Book of Nature. The universe is affected by two forces one attracts, the other repels, and when balanced they maintain equilibrium. Gravity draws a planet toward the sun, while centrifugal force pulls the planet away. These forces are antagonistic but not hostile, and acting together, they result in the perpetual movement of the planet in its elliptical orbit. Opposition develops talent and criticism arouses genius. The enunciation of error provokes the utterance of truth, and imperfect creeds cause truer ones to arise".

"How can they be understood?" "By analysis and synthesis. Taking them apart and putting them back together in new and useful ways."

"How do we attain this knowledge?" "By thinking deeply about a symbol, by relating it to our own lives and experiences, and by reading what others have thought and written. Then by thinking it through again. All symbols derive from the Book of Nature and they reveal to us this great truth: that the engines of infinity are divinely driven."

"What is the chief duty of a Knight of the Sun or Prince Adept?" "His first duty is to pursue truth and perform Masonic labor." "And what is Masonic labor?"

At this moment, Brother Truth asks all the Brethren present to stand. Then he responds to the question by saying, "The Masonry of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite does not permit anyone to put forth in its behalf pretenses to the possession of any mysterious or occult knowledge not within the reach of the world at large. Indeed, such pretenses are unauthorized anywhere in Masonry. Masonic labor is to learn, and to teach others."

Closing

Brother Truth directs his attention to the Candidates. "Now, Brethren, I charge you, and each of you, to the performance of that duty." He raps once on the altar, then says, "Go in peace."



Master of Kadosh continued

the site. Many Buddhists believe the temple's construction was ordered by the god Indra, and that the work was accomplished in one night. However, scholars now know it took several decades to build Angkor Wat, from the design phase to completion.

Although Angkor Wat was no longer a site of political, cultural or commercial significance by the 13th century, it remained an important monument for the Buddhist religion into the 1800s. Indeed, unlike many historical sites, Angkor Wat was never truly abandoned. Rather, it fell gradually into disuse and disrepair. Nonetheless, it remained an architectural marvel unlike anything else. It was "rediscovered" in 1840s by the French explorer Henri Mouhot, who wrote that the site was "grander than anything left to us by Greece or Rome." The compliment can likely be attributed to the temple's design, which is supposed to represent Mount Meru, the home of the gods, according to tenets of both the Hindu and Buddhist faiths. Its five towers are intended to recreate the five peaks of Mount Meru, while the walls and moat below honor the surrounding mountain ranges and the sea.

By the time of the site's construction, the Khmer had developed and refined their own architectural style, which relied on sandstone. As a result, Angkor Wat was constructed with blocks of sandstone. A 15-foot high wall, surrounded by a wide moat, protected the city, the temple and residents from invasion, and much of that fortification is still standing. A sandstone causeway served as the main access point for the temple. Inside these walls, Angkor Wat stretches across more than 200 acres. It's believed that this area included the city, the temple structure and the emperor's palace, which was just north of the temple. However, in keeping with

tradition at the time, only the city's outer walls and the temple were made of sandstone, with the rest of the

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Working with Rodrigo is a true pleasure. Rodrigo is a 13-year-old boy who is being seen for speech and language therapy in both individual treatment and with a peer for a social thinking group. It has been so fun to watch Rodrigo progress on his goals and be a leader in social group. Rodrigo is flexible, kind and tries his best. He loves to play video games and is very skilled with all things in the technology realm. If you have a computer problem, he is the guy to ask! During treatment sessions, Rodrigo enjoys playing online word games and games like Candy Crush. No surprise, he beats his therapist nearly every time!



express himself without getting frustrated.”

Rodrigo’s family say they have had a wonderful experience at the clinic. “His therapist has been amazing, helps my son a lot to achieve his goals and is very professional. I am very grateful to the Scottish Rite Center for providing these services at no cost,” Erika said.

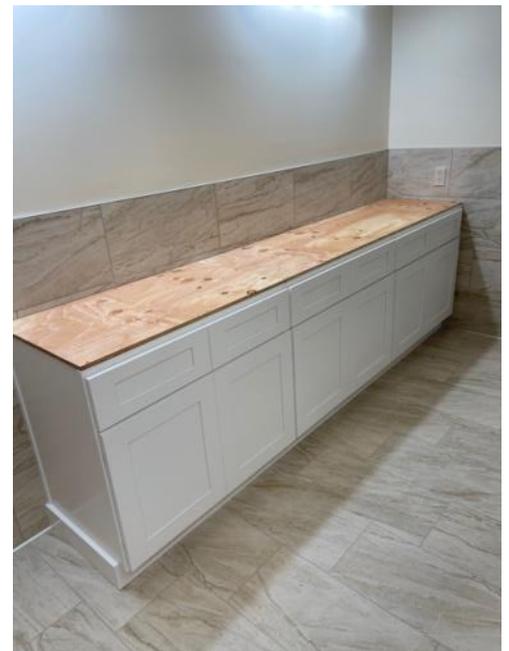


New cabinet in upstairs women’s bathroom

Progress on Rodrigo’s speech and language goals has been greatly enhanced by his supportive family, who work on all homework tasks and regularly communicate with his therapist. His family heard about the clinic from a friend. Rodrigo displays deficits in his language skills, which make it hard for him to process language receptively and produce expressive language. Rodrigo has difficulty formulating his ideas into sentences. He displays grammar and syntax (word order) difficulties which make it difficult to understand what he is communicating. Prior to treatment, his mother Erika said, “He couldn’t express himself and communicate well with others. He would go off topic when I had conversations with him. When he started the service, I saw positive progress from him. He began to focus on our conversations.”

Goals for Rodrigo have targeted grammar including irregular plurals, pronouns, possessive nouns, and prepositions to help him formulate sentences that are accurate and make sense to his conversation partners. He has worked on formulating questions, answering questions, creating sentences and critical thinking tasks.

Rodrigo’s family has noticed a positive impact from the skills he is learning. His mother Erika expressed, “Now we can have a conversation while staying on topic. I can understand him, and he expresses himself more clearly. He seems more confident. The most rewarding thing for me, is I can have a conversation with my son, and he can



Wise Master Continued

knocks at our door is a candidate for our degrees. He might just be looking for an opportunity to serve his community or for comradery with good men. If he is looking for a more meaningful experience and has a need to achieve a state of perfect balance between material needs and his spiritual aspirations then Masonry, which provides the study and application of laws that unite humans to the creator could be his path. But that path is a long one measured more by years than days or months.

If we follow the path given to us by our Ancient Masters, then modern day Masonry must re-assess its approach to the initiatic experience. The teachings are there for the wise man to hear and learn. But I strongly argue it can't be rushed. I recommend you to masonicrestorationfoundation.org website to further any interest you might have in the Masonic initiatic experience. This website can direct you to many excellent books on the subject and provides their thinking on the need for and how to enhance the candidate's experience.

Our now old friend and Master, W.L. Wilmshurst explains this need much more elegantly than I: "The work of our Order is to initiate into certain secrets and mysteries, and obviously if the Order fails to expound its own secrets and mysteries and so to confer real initiations as distinguished from passing candidates through certain formal ceremonies, it is not fulfilling its original purpose whatever other incidental good it may be doing."

The officers of the Council enthusiastically congratulate all those responsible for the truly moving celebration of Maundy Thursday and the memorial to our recently departed Brethren.



Master of Kadosh Continued

structures built from wood and other, less durable materials. Hence, only portions of the temple and city wall remain. Even so, the temple is still a majestic structure: At its highest point—the tower above the main shrine—it reaches nearly 70 feet into the air.

The temple walls are decorated with thousands of bas-reliefs representing important deities and figures in the Hindu and Buddhist religions as well as key events in its narrative tradition. There is also a bas-relief depicting Emperor Suryavarman II entering the city, perhaps for the first time following its construction. Unfortunately, although Angkor Wat remained in use until fairly recently—into the 1800s—the site has sustained significant damage, from forest overgrowth to earthquakes to war. The French, who ruled what is now known as Cambodia for much of the 20th century, established a commission to restore the site for tourism purposes in the early 1900s. This group also oversaw ongoing archeological projects there.

While restoration work was accomplished in bits and pieces under French rule, major efforts didn't begin in earnest until the 1960s. By then, Cambodia was a country transitioning from colonial rule to a limited form of constitutional monarchy. When Cambodia fell into a brutal civil war in the 1970s, Angkor Wat, somewhat miraculously, sustained relatively minimal damage. The autocratic and barbarous Khmer Rouge regime did battle troops from neighboring Vietnam in the area near the ancient city, and there are bullet holes marking its outer walls as a result.

Since then, with the Cambodian government undergoing numerous changes, the international community, including representatives of India, Germany and France, among others, have contributed to the ongoing restoration efforts. The site remains an important source of national pride for Cambodians.

In 1992, it was named a UNESCO World Heritage site. Although visitors to Angkor Wat numbered in just the few thousands at the time, the landmark now welcomes some 500,000 visitors each year—many of whom arrive early in the morning to capture images of the sunrise over what still is a very magical, spiritual place.



III. Roger Bibb 33° Class

TBD in 2021



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."

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

2nd Sponsor PRINTED NAME _____ I hereby authorize the San Jose Scottish Rite to charge \$ _____
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(Return Petition to Valley General Secretary's Office)

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Future Scottish Rite and Masonic Events

Tuesday May 11th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

This meeting will be virtual
Lodge of Perfection Opens

Tuesday June 8th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

This meeting is currently planned to be in person
Lodge of Perfection Opens

Tuesday July 13th ~ Scottish Rite Stated Meeting 6:00 pm

Lodge of Perfection Opens

