

1910, 1925, & TODAY



THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY FOR THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE IN THE ORIENT OF CALIFORNIA

# THE RITE WORD

September 2016

Volume 10, Issue 9



## From the Venerable Master



The unofficial close to Summer has arrived even though the Autumnal Equinox isn't until September 22. Schools are returning to session. Kid's are sad. Parents are happy!

The Lodge of Perfection sponsored a Wine Bottling event at the Guglielmo Winery on August 6. I picked up a case for a very reasonable price. The instructions are to let the wine sit for at least two weeks to recover from 'bottle shock'. I'll let you know when they recover. I saw a few Scottish Rite members there while I was in line. Bros. Wolfgang and Jeff made sure to pick up their daily ration as well.

One thing that did hit home was the smell of smoke coming from the Sobranes Fire down in Monterey. Latest news says that fire will be contained by the end of September. The fire started in July. Can you imagine a forest fire lasting over two months? I know that there are requests for donations to support the families, fire fighters, and animals impacted by this devastation. Please look to see where you might help.

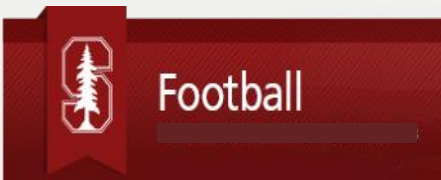
The next event that the Lodge of Perfection is looking into is a Night of Comedy. We are still working out the details, but should have something soon. The plan is for the event to be held in October. The comedian we have in mind is a former Police Officer and has been on a number of late night shows to perform. Ticket pricing is expected to be around \$20. Heavy hors d'ouvres will be served. This is not considered an event for children.

Is it too early to be planning my farewell speech? Maybe so, May be so...

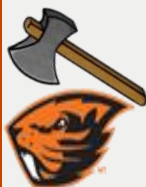
**Tom Bergevin**  
Venerable Master



GUGLIELMO  
EST. 1925



Football



## STANFORD vs. OREGON STATE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5th at TBA  
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**BY MS. MARY LOU JOHNSON  
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- Bro. Hank Vlcek 32°

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Make your contribution to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies and have your name included on the “Honor Roll”.

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The “2016” Honor Roll**

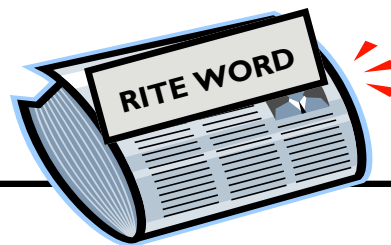
**ONGOING**

**Rite Word Support  
is always needed!**

*Your donations for the Rite Word are Instrumental in helping make a meaningful communication!*

**Call Hank Vlcek  
for information.**

**(408) 978-7483**



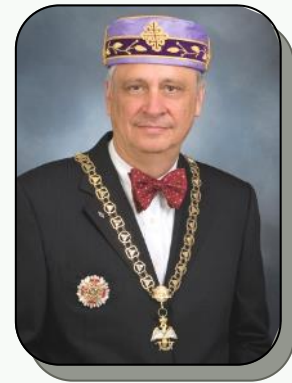
We, the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation( TIN 94-2541623), hereby certify that all funds received on the behalf of the San Jose Scottish Rite Foundation, The Children’s Language Disorders Clinic, and/or the San Jose Scottish Rite Scholarship funds are used for charitable purposes only and the donor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

**San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies**

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

**2016 - Lodge of Perfection**

Venerable Master	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Senior Warden	Bro. Martin Maxey, 32°	831-402-4903
Junior Warden	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
Captain of the Host	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
<b>2016 - Chapter of Rose Croix</b>		
Wise Master	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Senior Warden	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Junior Warden	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32° KCCH	831-685-3416
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Kerem Kapkin, 32°	831-334-4041
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Laurentiu Murgu, 32°	408-755-0079
<b>2016- Council of Kadosh</b>		
Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Richard Bartlett, 32°	831-331-3342
2nd Lt Commander	Bro. Cordell Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Charles Colman, 32°	408-972-5101
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Bill Mattson, 32°	408-771-1872
<b>2016 San Jose Consistory</b>		
Master of Kadosh	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700
Prior	Bro. Mark Burger, 32°	831-373-1094
Preceptor	Bro. TJ Jackson, 32°	408-230-6088
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Oscar James, 32°	408-644-1023
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Kevin Griffith, 32°	408-259-6965
<b>2016- General Officers</b>		
Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
General Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Prelate	Bro. Mike Sloan, 32°	408-365-8266
Almoner	Bro. Jerry Best, 32° KCCH	408-712-5370
Orator/Librarian	Bro. David Kimball 32° KCCH	408-836-6792
Tiler	Bro. Tom Tefft, 32°	408-229-9460
Club Liaison	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
Director of Ceremonies	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32° KCCH	831-685-3416
Assist. Director of Ceremonies	Bro. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
Organist	Bro. Richard Timmins 32° KCCH	408-899-2047
Chief Knight KSA	Bro. TJ Jackson 32°	408-230-6088



**Ill. Ronald A. Seale, 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.**

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

President	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
Treasurer	Bro. Carey Atwood, 32°	408-832-1867
Director (exp 9/30/2016)	Ill. Richard Fisher, 33°	408-779-4088
Director (exp 9/30/2016)	Bro. Jerry Best, 32° KCCH	408-712-5370
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32° KCCH	408-656-2459
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner, 32° KCCH	408-505-1822
Director (exp 9/30/2018)	Bro. Wayne Rose, 32°	408-266-4184
Director (exp 9/30/2018)	Bro. H. Bud Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Venerable Master	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Wise Master	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
Master of Kadosh	Bro. JR McGovert, 32°	408-258-3700

***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 Clinic



**P**enelope is a sweet 10 year old girl who has been seen at the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Disorders Clinic for speech and language delays with receptive and expressive language and social communication. When Penelope first started coming to our clinic she was only using single words to communicate. Her mother reported that she used her “own words” that no one could understand. She also had difficulty initiating a conversation, using eye gaze and gestural communication to interact with others, and was unable to ask questions or make comments during the course of a conversation.



Penelope’s goals have included formulating sentences of four to ten words in length with a variety of complex syntactical structures, increasing use of age-appropriate grammar, initiating conversations, using questions and comments to take multiple turns with a communication partner, and following directions with linguistic concepts of increasing length and complexity.

Penelope has made exceptional progress toward her speech and language goals. She is now using sentences of up to ten words in length to communicate with a variety of grammatical and syntactical structures. She will take up to six turns during conversation given some support. She is more effectively initiating conversations and using questions and comments spontaneously to share information with her communication partner. She can also follow directions of increasing length and complexity given some assistance. Her mother reported that she has improved immensely with her ability to communicate with her family, friends and at school. Penelope’s mom commented that “Everybody is happy. It’s easy to communicate with her.” We are so proud of Penelope’s progress. Her language has blossomed and it is a joy to see her more effectively communicating! Great job Penelope!



**Thank you!,  
Angela Stephan  
for all you did  
for Our  
Rite Care Clinic  
& the children !**



## CONGRATULATIONS!!

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**BRO. GREG LA FAVOR 33°**

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Brother is ill, in need, or  
has passed to the other shore.  
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anytime! (408) 978-7483



*Called  
from Labor...*

Bro. Robert Harpainter, 32°  
August 15th, 2016

May it be his portion  
To hear from Him  
Who sitteth as the  
Judge Supreme

“Well done, good and faithful Brother!”



*For the Ladies....*

## Husbands

*A group of women were at a seminar on how to live in a loving relationship with their husbands.*

The women were asked, "How many of you love your husband?" All the women raised their hands.

Then they were asked, "When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?"

Some women answered today, a few yesterday, and some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their cell phones and text their husband - "I love you, Sweetheart"

Next the women were instructed to exchange phones with one another and read aloud the text message they received in response to their message.

Below are 12 hilarious replies. If you have been married for quite a while, you understand that these replies are a sign of true love. Who else would reply in such a succinct and honest way?

1. Who the hell is this?
2. Eh, mother of my children, are you sick or what?
3. Yeah, and I love you too. What's wrong?
4. What now? Did you wreck the car again?
5. I don't understand what you mean?
6. What the hell did you do now?
8. Don't beat about the bush, just tell me how much you need?
9. Am I dreaming?
10. If you don't tell me who this message is actually for, someone will die.
11. I thought we agreed you wouldn't drink during the day.
12. Your mother is coming to stay with us, isn't she?



*Kinda tugs at the heart, doesn't it?*

**Sept 13th, 2016**

**(Assorted Appetizers)**

Yankee Pot Roast

Mashed Potatoes

Baby Carrots

Caesar Salad

Fresh Rolls and butter

Vegetarian Entrée (upon request)

Dessert

**\$15.00 Per Person**



**Cheers!**



#### FROM THE COMMANDER

*(The information found in this article is taken from the Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide)*

**T**he San Jose Council of Kadosh is the Body responsible for the 19th through the 30th Scottish Rite Degrees, known as the “Philosophical and Chivalric Degrees.” The information below is a synopsis of the 26th Degree—**PRINCE OF MERCY, or SCOTTISH TRINITARIAN.**



***“I Am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending, Saith the Lord”***

This is the 3rd and Final of the novitiate of the Mysteries Degrees, in which you represent one of the faithful & elect.

The early Christian Mysteries are introduced, and some of their ideas are expounded upon, as were the early Hebrew Mysteries in the Twenty-fourth and the Islamic Mysteries in the Twenty-fifth Degrees. Their grades were Purification, Initiation, and Accomplishment, or Perfection.

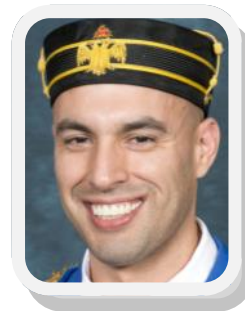
The Grip of the Lion’s Paw is identified as representing the mental grasp of a new definition of the world, by which Man is raised in consciousness from the dead and putrefied state of mental ignorance. You will again be symbolically lustrated with water as a symbol of purification by suffering and sorrow. You will again share food and wine, remembering that we are fellow travelers on the path, and that we are united in our pursuit of Truth.

**ROGER BIBB**

**COMMANDER, SAN JOSE COUNCIL OF KADOSH**

**G**reetings Brethren,

I would like to begin by once again congratulating the Valley's latest class on becoming Scottish Rite Masons. To be invested with "the cap" is truly an honor. The Southern Jurisdiction has a lot to offer its members and can be a very rewarding for those who get involved.



Options for involvement are numerous. You can become an officer in one of the four bodies; join the College of Consistory or Scottish Rite Research Society; become a Knight of Saint Andrew; join a degree team; start a degree team; read a book about Scottish Rite Masonry (Bridge to Light, Scottish Rite Ritual Monitor and Guide, Morals and Dogma, Clausen's Commentaries...) or one of the many figures and related traditions discussed in its Degrees; purchase one of the Mastercraftsman Programs; or simply assist in the planning of the Valley's events. Sound like a lot? It is...but so was 29 degrees in a few days.

It is for this reason that many have referred to the Scottish Rite as University of Masonry. There is a lot to learn beyond the ceremonies of any Degree. In fact, Albert Pike stated that a Scottish Rite Mason has not truly had a Degree until he has read the accompanying chapter in Morals & Dogma. Therefore, I would suggest starting-off by purchasing one of the MasterCraftsman programs. They are available on the Supreme Council's website. These texts and quizzes will better familiarize you with the history, lessons, and philosophies discussed and alluded to in the Degrees. Personally, I found the greatest benefit of these courses was not what I learned about the Scottish Rite, but rather what I learned about myself.

The Scottish Rite, like everything in Masonry, can only be what you make of it. It can be a life-changing experience or a once-a-month supper club. The choice is yours. Membership in the San Jose Valley, as you have probably already noticed, means a lot of different things to a number of different people. What will it mean to you?

Humble (retold by Nasruddin)

My beloveds, I remember a time long ago when I was still a Mulla. I lived in a small town, just big enough for a real mosque, with a beautiful mosaic wall. I remember one evening, we had finished our prayers. The stars were clear and bright, and seemed to fill the sky solidly with lights. I stood at the window, gazing at the lights so far away, each one bigger than our world, and so distant from us across vast reaches of space. I thought of how we walk this earth, filled with our own importance, when we are just specks of dust. If you walk out to the cliffs outside the town, a walk of half an hour at most, you look back and you can see the town, but the people are too small to see, even at that meager distance. When I think of the immensity of the universe, I am filled with awe and reverence for power so great.

I was thinking such thoughts, looking out the window of the mosque, and I realized I had fallen to my knees. "I am nothing, nothing!" I cried, amazed and awestruck.

There was a certain well-to-do man of the town, a kind man who wished to be thought very devout. He cared more for what people thought of him than for what he actually was. He happened to walk in and he saw and heard what passed. My beloveds, I was a little shy at being caught in such a moment, but he rushed down, looking around in the obvious hope someone was there to see him. He knelt beside me, and with a final hopeful glance at the door through which he had just come, he cried, "I am nothing! I am nothing!"

It appears that the man who sweeps, a poor man from the edge of the village, had entered the side door with his broom to begin his night's work. He had seen us, and being a man of true faith and honest simplicity, his face showed that he entertained some of the same thoughts that had been laid on me by the hand of Allah (wonderful is He). He dropped his broom and fell to his knees up there in a shadowed corner, and said softly,

"I am nothing...I am nothing!"

The well-to-do man next to me nudged me with his elbow and said out of the side of his mouth, "Look who thinks he's nothing!"

**J.R. McGovert -  
Master of Kadosh**





Greetings Brothers, Family, and Friends,

From the Wise Master

I hope you all are enjoying a nice relaxing day off this Labor Day. The first State bill for this day was brought to legislation by New York, but the first to pass it to law was Oregon on February 21, 1887. By 1894, 23 other states adopted the holiday in honor of workers. Make sure you make the best of this day off.

The Chapter of Rose Croix will be hosting a football game on November 5th. We will be watching Stanford beat Oregon State, or so we hope. The price of the game, and the tail gate is \$35.00. We are unsure if the game will be a morning kick off, or afternoon, and the tail gate will be cooked accordingly. There are still 10 tickets available of the 20. If we see more interest than the 20, we will acquire more, as seen fit. I hope to see you at the football game, Scottish games (with the KSA), and if you can not make those then we will see you at the next Stated Meeting.

I would like to congratulate those that were capped at our last meeting. We hope to see you at our stated meetings, and don't forget to make a reservation for dinner in advance. A thank you is in order for our Knights that assisted in the capping ceremony, for all the tireless works that they do for our valley, and to our MC for the capping ceremony, Bro Bud Ramsay.



Very Respectfully,  
**Brandon Heath Duenas**



# The Personal Representative for the San Jose Scottish Rite

*invites all Masons, and their families and friends, to*

## **New Orleans**

**September 16-23, 2017**



**J**oin Ken and Kathy Nagel, along with the officers and member of the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies, as we explore the sights and sounds of New Orleans. Stroll the world famous French Quarter, enjoy the beautiful plantations, take in the incredible jazz and Zydeco music, be amazed at the variety of life on a swamp tour, cruise along on a jazz/dinner cruise aboard the steamboat Natchez, and enjoy some of the most incredible food anywhere on the planet. We want you with us.

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**Randy Downey Phone: (408) 674-8341**  
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Office of the Secretary (408) 978-7483

2455 Masonic Drive – PO Box 18220, San Jose, CA. 95158-8220

Fee: \$150.00 *(must accompany this petition)*

(Please print or type)

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (If different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth : \_\_\_\_\_

Present Blue Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_ Approx. Date Raised: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (If retired, previous occupation): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever petitioned for any of the Scottish Rite Degrees?: \_\_\_\_\_

I believe in the inculcation of patriotism, respect for law and order and undying loyalty to the principles of civil and religious liberty, the entire separation of church and state as set forth in the Constitution of the United States of America. Wholeheartedly believing in the foregoing, I respectfully apply for membership with San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended by:

1: \_\_\_\_\_ 2: \_\_\_\_\_





SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE BODIES  
OF THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE

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

**Tuesday, Sept 13th ~ Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm**

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program TBA

**Sunday, Sept 18th ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together**

1:00 pm- 7:00pm - Host: Wors. Naresh Rampershad, 5802 Blossom Ave, SJ 95123 Bring a dish to share

**Tuesday, Sept 20th ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Golden Rule Lodge #479**

6:30pm - Dinner ~ 7:30pm - School of Instruction - Candidate Education, Proficiencies, Funeral Service

**Tuesday, Sept 27th ~ 7:00pm ~ All Officer Meeting**

**Tuesday, Oct 11th ~ Stated Meeting @ 6:00pm**

6:30pm - Social Hour ~ 7:00pm - Dinner ~ Program - Feast of Tishri

**Monday, Oct 17th ~ Monthly OAM Meeting hosted by Los Altos Lodge #712**

6:30pm - Dinner ~ 7:30pm - School of Instruction - Grand Lodge Preview, Elections, Reception of the Flag

**Sunday, Oct 23rd ~ Monthly Masonic Get Together**

1:00 pm- 7:00pm - Host: Bro. JR McGovert, 3154 Orange St, SJ 95127 Bring a dish to share

**Friday—Sunday, Oct 28th—30th ~ Grand Lodge Communication in San Francisco**

**Sunday, Nov 6th ~ Reception for New Grand Master at SJ Scottish Rite. Details next month**

*“The Rite Word (USPS #3043) is published monthly by the San Jose Scottish Rite at 2455 Masonic Dr., San Jose, CA 95125.*

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