

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

DECEMBER 2014

Volume 8, Issue 12



A Message From the VENERABLE MASTER

Anno Lucis; In the Year of the Light

Brethren,

The end of any year always makes me wonder; how did the year fly by so quickly? What was really accomplished? What happened to all those good intentions? Perhaps you have the same feelings and wish to hold onto or recapture, some of the time that is slipping quickly away.

Certainly December is a busy month for everyone with the joyous celebrations of Holy Events such as Christmas; the giving and receiving of gifts, the parties and gatherings, the time for family to come together. Masonically, it is busy with installations and Social Events. Little time to sit, reflect and consider all that has occurred. The clock keeps on ticking toward the next year.

In Scottish Rite the ending of the year means the new Officers are gathering details of the previous months for the Annual Report and the Fiduciary Report. What activities and events did the Valley actually have and how the finances and other matters were handled.

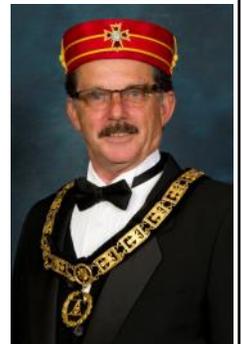
Please join me in congratulating these men and wish them well in the coming year.

My brothers - this being my last Rite Word; I never wished to impose upon you anything outside our fundamental structure. Understanding that all Faiths and traditions incorporate ideals of justice and mercy, we as representatives of our faith are drawn to both ideals. We crave the order and sanity that the ideal of justice brings. Those who harm others should be punished. Those who have been harmed should receive reparation. Even more we crave the redemption that the ideal of mercy brings; we may not be perfect, we may make mistakes, but we should be given the opportunity to do better.

Now it is time to reflect with an eye made quiet by the power of harmony, and the deep power of joy, we see into the life of things. We are constantly searching for knowledge for the answers to questions about the world we live in and the universe beyond. We wonder through library pages, through thick texts spend hours at the computer, conduct painstaking research, and consult with experts. Sometimes in our search for knowledge we also need to allow ourselves time for simple quiet reflection. The answers that come to us in these moments may not be scientific, but they may help satisfy our deep longing to better understand the meaning of our lives. I will give myself time to reflect on my life. No directions no 'musts' no authorities - just quiet and thought.

To my Christian Brothers, Merry Christmas; To my Jewish Brothers, Happy Hanukkah; and to all my Brothers a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year, and of course Thank you for the support given me through the year and for continuing to be an active involved Scottish Rite Freemason. For the days: I declare his works with a joyful cry and rejoice when he leads my brethren to their desired harbor. FAREWELL.

*Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCF
Venerable Master*



A SAN JOSE SCOTTISH RITE PUBLICATION

HOME OF THE ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES OF THE VALLEY OF SAN JOSE

San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies

Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

2014 - Lodge of Perfection

Venerable Master	Bro. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
Senior Warden	Bro. Jack Harris, 32° KCCH	408-314-6124
Junior Warden	Bro. Tom Bergevin, 32°	408-985-5996
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Hank Vlcek, 32°	408-578-6208
Captain of the Host	Bro. Martin Maxey, 32°	831-402-4903
2014 - Chapter of Rose Croix		
Wise Master	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner 32°	408-505-1822
Senior Warden	Bro. Cordell H. Bleiler, 32° KCCH	650-948-1400
Junior Warden	Bro. Brandon Duenas, 32°	408-763-7696
Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Ion Vasilescu, 32°	408-371-7172
Guardian of the Temple	Bro. Charles Cowden, 32° KCCH	831-685-3416
2014- Council of Kadosh		
Commander	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
1st Lt Commander	Bro. Will Montoya, 32°	408-274-1137
2nd Lt Commander	Ill. Roger Bibb, 33°	408-371-0470
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Jose Pulido, 32°	408-205-6432
Lt of the Guard	Bro. Richard Bartlett, 32°	831-331-3342
2014 San Jose Consistory		
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32°	408 -656-2459
Prior	Bro. Richard Rosenberg, 32°	650-494-8792
Preceptor	Bro. H. "Bud" Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Marshal of Ceremonies	Bro. Shaker Nazer, 32°	408-554-9234
Captain of the Guard	Bro. Bill Mattson, 32°	408-771-1872
2014- General Officers		
Personal Representative	Ill. Kenneth G. Nagel, 33°	510-468-9864
Assist. to the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277
Treasurer	Bro. James Arnold, 32°	408-859-7523
General Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
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



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



**Ill. Frank Loui, 33° P.G.M.
Deputy of the Supreme Council 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
Treasurer	Bro. James Arnold, 32°	408-859-7523
Secretary	Bro. Henry A. Vlcek, 32°	408-757-1774
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°	408 -656-2459
Director (exp 9/30/2017)	Bro. H. "Bud" Ramsey, 32° KCCH	408-838-3730
Director (exp 9/30/2015)	Bro. Jack Harris, 32° KCCH	408-314-6124
Director (exp 9/30/2015)	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Venerable Master	Bro. Joseph DaSilva, 32° KCCH	831-635-9749
Wise Master	Bro. Wolfgang Lochner 32°	408-505-1822
Commander	Bro. Randy Downey, 32° KCCH	408-674-8341
Master of Kadosh	Bro. Gregg A. Hall, 32°	408 -656-2459
Assist. To the Personal Representative	Ill. Richard A. Meyers, 33°	408-264-0277

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.



A Word From the Commander.....

The holidays are upon us – too soon for many of us. Now begins the year-end craziness - with holiday shopping, Lodge installations and concordant body installations, holiday parties, and all the stresses that come along with these. The holidays are indeed a festive time, but as the train of time speeds recklessly towards the end of the year, our stress load seems to increase at a rapid pace. This stress wears down the body and mind, and makes us prone to exhaustion, and more susceptible to illness. While nothing can completely free us from the inevitable problems of the season, we can do many things to allow us to better cope, and increase our ability to deal with the stress.

Here are some things you can do to help prevent or alleviate holiday stress:

- Avoid over-eating – try to pace yourself during meals, and watch those treats like cookies and candy.
- Drink alcohol only in moderation
- Try to accomplish tasks, such as shopping, early on, to avoid last minute panic.
- Exercise – even short walks can increase your overall fitness, and increase your ability to cope with stress
- Take some alone time – try to find a few minutes each day to sit, alone, away from distractions. Just close your eyes and breathe slowly and deeply, and try to clear away all the clutter in your mind. It can do wonders for you.

Another thing that can be helpful, is to spend quality time with friends. A great place to do that is at the Scottish Rite. Yes, attending another meeting can actually add to your stress level, but that can be more than relieved, and then some, with the good times we have in our social times.

Please join us at our next stated meeting, and keep coming back.

Randy Downey, 32° KECM
Commander, Council of Kadosh



Capping Ceremony on Nov 11 for 2014 Fall Reunion Candidates

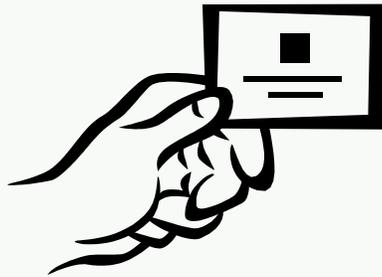


Would you like to
advertise your Business?

Contact the Business Office:
Angela Athans - 408-978-7483



Business Card - \$20 per month / \$200 per year
1/4 Page - \$40 per month / \$400 per year
1/2 Page - \$80 per month / \$800 per year
Full Page - \$160 per month / \$1600 per year



VALIANT PRIVATE SECURITY

"Superior Security
for any event or property.
It is our honor and
pleasure to protect
the San Jose Scottish Rite Center.



PPO 16608

We are pleased to offer our services
to your event hall, too!"



www.ValiantPrivateSecurity.com

TEL: 408-649-8386

FAX: 831-607-5013

Independent, Inspired, Empowered



ENJOY A VIBRANT MASONIC RETIREMENT AT ACACIA CREEK

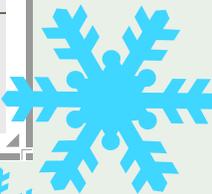
Our mission is to enrich the independence, well-being, and security
of our residents through exceptional amenities, services and care.



IMAGINE LIVING THE DREAM

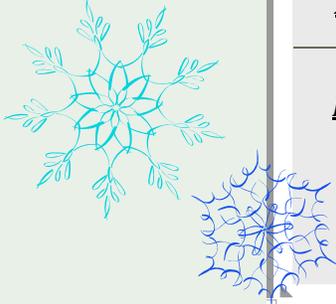
Shut Ins

<u>Raymond Ruhland</u>	5068 Trenary Way, San Jose, CA. 95118-2626	408-267-5569 Visitors most welcome!
<u>Jack Harris</u>	1066 Camino Ramon San Jose, CA. 95125	408-314-6124 Calls/visitors Welcome!
<u>Greg LaFavor</u>	6700 Buggywhip Ct. San Jose, CA 95120	408-268-5847
<u>Orville Hanel</u>	800 Blossom Hill Rd. San Jose , CA. 95032-3575	408/365-0805 Would like visitors please!



Permanent Shut Ins

<u>Ralph V. Sharp</u>	7010 Stagecoach Pass Show Low, AZ 85901	<u>Visitors Welcome!</u>
<u>Alvin Wong</u>	1163 Carolyn Ave. San Jose, CA. 95125-3223	<u>408-293-6583</u> <u>Visitors welcome !</u>
<u>Robert Gass</u>	c/o : VA Nursing Home Care Rm.258 4951 Arroyo Rd. Livermore, CA 94550-9650	*****



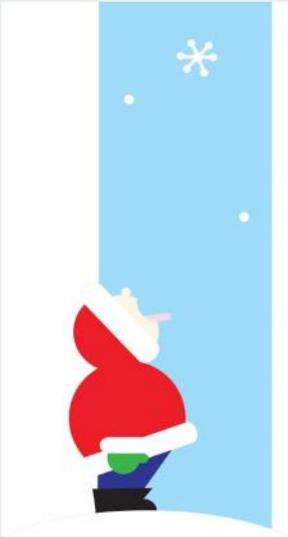
Please remember those brothers that are shut in. A friendly call or note from a fellow brother would be a warm and appreciated gesture. Though, they cannot always be present , they are certainly not out of mind. We wish them all the best. God Bless.

Called from Labor

Bro. Gordon K. Durham, 32°
October 1st, 2014

Bro Raymond Edinger 32°
November 6th, 2014

Bro Lawrence T. Magnus, 32°
November 14th, 2014



Please remember to notify us when a fellow Brother is ill, in need, or has passed to the other shore. We are not always contacted in a timely manner. Scottish Rite is here to assist! Please feel free to call anytime!
(408) 978-7483



From the Clinic



December 2014 Newsletter

Isaac is a sweet six-year old boy who has a diagnosis of Congenital Myotonic Dystrophy Type I, which is a genetic disease that impacts muscle weakness throughout the body. When Isaac first started speech and language therapy at our clinic in February 2014 he was only using a few words like “mama” and “dada”.

He could not answer questions and had difficulty communicating with his family and peers.

Since February, Isaac has made incredible progress with his speech and language skills. He now frequently uses two-word phrases spontaneously and has started to use three- and four-word phrases too. Occasionally he will use five-word sentences during structured therapy tasks. His mother and school have noted a significant improvement in Isaac’s language. He is now requesting toys, books, and food spontaneously. He has also started to describe his feelings.

In addition to increasing his language, Isaac has also worked on improving the muscle weakness in his face, particularly in his lips, tongue, and cheeks. He is making progress with oral motor exercises to improve facial strength and range of motion, which helps with speech productions. Isaac is learning how to use different sounds to produce increasingly complex word and syllable structures. For example, he used to say “tao” for “table” or “nana” for “banana. Given facilitating techniques, such as PROMPT, which is a special tactile cuing system, he can now use these more complex speech forms with increased consistency.

His mother relayed to Rachel, his Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) at the clinic, that our services can “totally change a kid’s life”. Isaac is growing in his independence and is learning to use language to help himself in his environment. It is a true joy to watch him blossom in expressing himself.

His mother is deeply thankful for our services. She stated, “We appreciate our SLP in the clinic. She is very supportive, very kind to discuss and provide information and tools...My son [has] improved so much [with] his language development. [We are] very appreciative!”

Charitable Giving Made Easy!

Generate income for you and your family and help the charity of your choice through a Charitable Gift Annuity.

When you make a donation of \$5,000 or more to our Charitable Gift Annuity program, you will receive quarterly income based on your age and the corresponding rate as set by the American Council on Gift Annuities. You can choose which Scottish Rite charity you want your gift to benefit, like the Rebuilding the Temple Campaign, Scholarships, and the California Scottish Rite Foundation.



Benefits of a Charitable Gift Annuity

- Fixed income for life
- Significant tax deduction
- Competitive rate of return
- Capital gains tax advantages

Choose Your Charity

- The Rebuilding the Temple Campaign
- Scholarships
- California Scottish Rite Foundation

Example: \$10,000 Gift Annuity

Age 50	3.7%
Age 60	4.4%
Age 70	5.1%
Age 80	6.8%
Age 90+	9.0%

These rates, current as of 2/27/14, are for a single life Gift Annuity. Rates are set annually by the American Council on Gift Annuities and fixed for life at the time of your donation. Gift Annuities are not available in some states.

This chart is for illustrative purposes and is not intended as legal advice. Please consult your attorney or financial advisor. A Gift Annuity is an irrevocable gift, not an investment. It is not insured by the federal or any state government, but is backed by the assets of the Scottish Rite.

To learn more about the Gift Annuity Program, please contact Major Donor Officer Donald W. Heath, 32°, KCCH, CFP® at 1-858-335-2070 or dheath@scottishrite.org.

LODGE	#	INSTALLATION DATE	DAY OF WEEK	INSTALLATION TIME	RECEPTION OR SOCIAL
MVDA	194	Dec. 06, 2014	Saturday	1:00 P.M.	2:30 P.M. Luncheon
Friendship	210	Dec. 11, 2014	Thursday	7:00 P.M.	6:00PM Social, Dinner after
Mt Moriah	292	Dec. 13, 2014	Saturday	7:00 P.M.	6:00 PM
Los Altos	712	Dec. 14, 2014	Sunday	4:00 P.M.	5:00 P.M.
South Valley	187	Dec. 14, 2014	Sunday	1:00 P.M.	12:30 P.M.
San Jose	10	Dec. 15, 2014	Monday	7:30 P.M.	5:30 Social, 6:30 Dinner
Willow Glen Fraternity	399	Dec. 17, 2014	Wednesday	7:00 P.M.	6:00 P.M. Light Refreshment
Santa Clara Daylight	844	Dec. 18, 2014	Thursday	12:00 P.M.	1:00 P.M.
Liberty	299	Jan. 10, 2015	Saturday	6:00 P.M.	5:00 P.M.
Golden Rule	479	Jan. 19, 2015	Monday	7:00 P.M.	6:00 P.M.
El Camino Research	100 2	Jan. 15, 2015	Thursday	7:30 P.M.	TBD
Palo Alto Roller	346	Jan. 20, 2015	Tuesday	7:30 P.M.	Closed Installation, Social Following
Three Great Lights	651	TBA			TBD

FALL 2014 REUNION CLASS

**Top Row: Ralph Stringham; Rogdrick Craig; TJ Jackson; Bob McBain; Josh Copeland
Bottom Row: Kristofer Johnson; Charles Colman; Raymond DeOcampo; Jeff Hanson**



Tuesday, December 11th, 2014
“CHRISTMAS FEAST!”

Assorted Appetizers

- ~Roasted Pork Loin with an apple brandy & raisin sauce
- ~Vegetable
- ~Mashed Potatoes with Gravy
- ~Mixed Green Salad
- ~Fresh Baked Rolls with butter
- ~Dessert

(Vegetarian Dish-upon request)

RESERVATIONS A MUST!

\$15.00 per person -With Reservations

\$20.00 Without



“2015” Annual Clinic Christmas Party !

It’s that time again!

Sunday, December 14th

Noon to 5pm

Light lunch and appetizers

Jumper, Arts and Crafts and a surprise guest!

Please invite your family! Come enjoy !

Please R.S.V.P. in the clinic or call the office and make your reservations!

We look forward to seeing you!

Happy Holidays!

Angela-Office Manager

(408)978-7483





From the Wise Master....

My Brothers,

December, the month of big holidays in most western religions, whether your belief is of one of the Christian or of Judean faith, and even some of the Muslims celebrate Mohammed's birthday end of December.

And it is the month of St. John's Day. Saint John the Evangelist was the second patron of the old masonic guilds (after St. John the Baptist), added at a later time when speculative Masonry became more formalized & elaborate.

It is also the time of Winter Solstice, the time with the shortest day in the year.

As explained in an earlier article, the right one of the parallel lines of the ancient symbol of a "point within a circle" is said to represent winter solstice, and within Masonry Saint John the Evangelist. Like the other three cardinal milestones (equinoxes and solstices) that are based on astronomical understanding of time in order to understand the ups and downs of nature based on changing sun, it was celebrated in ancient times as such: a time of peace and rest to recharge, before the chores of Spring will once again require full attention and energy in order to make it a successful year, crowned by harvest in the fall.

From here on, our days again will again get longer, and while it is a time of slow-down in pace, it's what allows us to recharge, and it is a message of joy – the darkest and coldest time is over, Spring is to come!.

To all the Masons: Happy St. John's Day! May the Light overcome the darkness!

To everyone, Happy Holidays, whether this is part of your belief, or just some extra quiet days, working on the recharge. May peace be everywhere, and most importantly, in your life!

Fraternally,

Wolfgang Lochner

Wise Master



From the Master of Kadosh,

Brethren,

The end of the year is upon us. Looking back it, I think that this was one of the very best years we have had at the Scottish Rite in the time I have been a member. We had several fantastic events, we brought in around 2 dozen new members, and we have set in motion some plans which we hope will allow our Valley to continue to prosper for years to come. I think that the next couple of years will be an exciting time to be a member of the Valley of San Jose .

December is also a time for family. All of the major religions have one of their major holidays during this month, so regardless of what religion you belong to, it is a time of celebration. Please enjoy your time with your families. Also, if you are in a position to do so, remember that there are many people that are less fortunate than you are, so make it a point to do something to relieve the distress of someone that needs some assistance. It doesn't have to be big or expensive. It can be something simple that will make a difference to those that receive it. Try it, it will make you feel good inside, I guarantee it.

So Chris and I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukah or whatever other celebration you might have.

Fraternally,

Gregg Hall

Master of Kadosh





RE-you-NION

Replace the 'U' with 'YOU'!

Join with your Brothers at the Spring 2015 Reunion!

April 10-11 / April 24-25 / April 28, 2015

Support San Jose Membership
by sponsoring a new member!

Application can be downloaded from our website.

www.sanjosescottishrite.org

PROPOSITION/PETITION
ORIENT OF SAN JOSE
ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
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**

PO Box 18220
San Jose, CA 95158-8220

Phone: 408-978-7483
Fax: 408-265-4578
e-mail: mail@sanjosescottishrite.org

Periodicals
Postage

PAID

Future Scottish Rite Events

Tuesday, December 2nd ~ *A Night of Scottish Rite Instruction*

6: 30pm—Social Gathering 7: 00pm—Festive Agape Dinner followed by talk about the F-117 Stealth Fighter

Tuesday, December 9th ~ *Stated Meeting @ 6: 00pm*

Christmas Dinner after the Meeting

Sunday, December 14th ~ *Annual Language Clinic Christmas Party @ Noon—5pm*

Tuesday, December 16th ~ *Scottish Rite All Officers Meeting @ 7pm*

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

Dinner after the Meeting, honoring the 2014 Blue Lodge Masters

Tuesday, January 27th ~ *INSTALLATION of Scottish Rite Officers for 2015 @ 7pm*

“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**, PO Box 18220, San Jose CA 95158.”*