

February 2012

Volume 6, Issue 2



From the Venerable Master

I thank the Brethren for allowing me to serve you as Venerable Master in 2012. I will do all I can to make the ensuing year a productive, enjoyable and educational experience.

It is my intention throughout the year to use this column as a forum to shine the beam of Masonic light on various ideas and concepts which I trust you will find worthwhile. So, during the year I am going to share some of the thoughts of my two favorite Masonic scholars: Ill Manly P. Hall, 33 Degree and Worshipful Brother Walter Leslie Wilmshurst. I find much of value in their writings as to the practice of our gentle craft. I will cite four books up front that I recommend for your reading. If you have already read them they are worth an encore.

From Ill Hall I commend "The Lost Keys of Masonry" and "Freemasonry of the Ancient Egyptians". From the fertile mind of Brother Wilmshurst I recommend "The Meaning of Masonry" and "The Masonic Initiation".

In Chapter VI of "The Lost Keys of Freemasonry", Brother Hall sets forth the attributes of a "true" Mason. I believe one can substitute Master for true and not change the essence of Brother Hall's thoughts. Here are just a few of his ideas on the qualifications of a Master Mason.

The true disciple of ancient Masonry has given up the worship of personalities. With his greater insight he realizes that all forms and their place in material affairs are of no importance to him when compared to the life which is evolving within him. Hall states that those who might allow appearances or worldly expressions to deter them from their spiritual tasks are failures in Masonry for Masonry is an abstract science of spiritual development. The true Mason realizes that there is one thing connected to life, the spark of God in all living things.

The true mason is not creed-bound. He knows that within the divine light of his Lodge that as a Mason his religion must be universal; Christ, Buddha or Mohammed makes no difference. The true mason recognizes only the light and not the bearer. He knows the truer understanding of the "oneness" of all spiritual truth.

The true Mason has the power of observation. He is a student of human nature and sees in those around him the unfolding and varied expressions of the connected spiritual Intelligence. He has sworn that in his everyday life he will use the life message he hears and build it as Temple to his God. He is a living instrument or tool in the expert hands of the Master Workman.

To close, I think it is both important and interesting to point out that Ill Hall was 19 when he started writing this book. He was only 21 when it was published and he was not a Mason at that time. It was from his study of comparative religion that he became aware of the secret philosophical schools and societies of the ancient worlds. This knowledge and the many books on Freemasonry that were readily available in the library led him to write "The Lost Keys of Freemasonry".

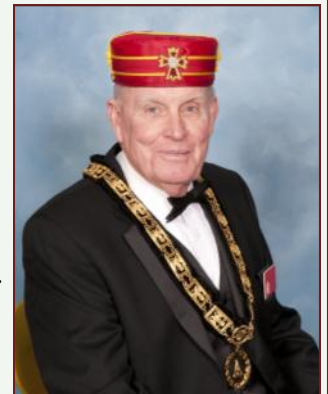
Mark your calendars for our two evenings of Scottish Rite Instruction and Agape Dinners. The first is on May 29th and the second on November the 20th.

Those who attended our previous Nights of Instruction have enjoyed an evening of Masonic Light, great food, drink and Brotherly Love.

Fraternally,

Chuck Cowden, 32^o, KCCH

Venerable Master



Donations To CLINIC***IN LOVING MEMORY OF******* BRO. JOHN RUNCIE ♥***By **** MRS. KATHRYN RUNCIE ******** In MEMORY of******* BRO. LARRY FAGAN &******* BRO. LARRY PEDERSEN***By **** BRO. ROBERT LAWS ******** IN LOVING MEMORY OF******* BRO. WILLIAM ROBERTS ♥***By **** MRS. RUTH ROBERTS ******** IN LOVING MEMORY OF******LOIS M. CORNELL ♥***By **** BRO. LEE CORNELL ****By **** MR. MRS. LAWRENCE DAQUINO ****By **** MR. MRS. JAMES HAIL ******** BRO. MRS. WAYNE JENSEN *******IN LOVING MEMORY OF******* MR. FRED BEIDATSCH ♥***By **** MRS. ELAINE BEIDATSCH ******General Donations****Donations To FOUNDATION****'2012'*****Honor Board Members****Make your contribution to the San Jose Scottish Rite Bodies and have your name included on the "Honor Roll".**Your annual gift of \$100.00 or more will help the San Jose Lodge of Perfection, Chapter Rose Croix, Council of Kadosh and Consistory reach the level necessary to provide quality events for our future success.**Incremental gifts are welcome too.***** BRO. ROBERT LAWS*****Rite Word Support for 2012***Your donation for the Rite Word are instrumental in helping make a meaningful communication!**Limited Advertising is now available.**Call the Secretary for information.*

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.*

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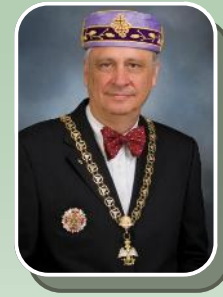
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Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite
for California

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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 Secretary's Table:

Brethren all,

Another year has passed and we have now installed a new corps of officers here in the San Jose Scottish Rite Valley. The year just passed was replete with comfortable successes and yet still left room for the incoming Officers to "show their own expertise and management styles." It has been my very distinct pleasure to have worked with our Officers for 2011 and I thank each of them for their efforts on behalf of our Valley. I look forward to serving with our newly installed Officers for 2012.



Please read and consider seriously the message from Bro. Ernie Castillo, 32° who is the acting Secretary of Santa Clara Valley Daylight Lodge #844. We were instrumental in the formation of that Lodge and perhaps we can be part of keeping them alive and kicking.

Take a look around when you next visit our facility. You will see that we have a brand new sign at the entrance to the clinic. If you attend any of our events you will notice that we have upgraded our sound system. *(We have experienced several problems in the transition however. If you were present at our Installation, you heard one of them.)* More changes still to come.

Over the years, we have had more than 1200 short talks from our Orator Emeritus, Ill. Maury Dunbar, 33° and he is primarily responsible for the library we now have, and a preponderance of the value contained therein. Maury will not be gone from us, as he has promised continued attendance and participation. Be sure that you thank him personally when you next see him.

In closing my message for this month, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the contributions made by our staff, especially Angela. She makes our Valley shine and our members are her most important effort every day. Please be sure to say a very warm thank you to her when you are next here. See you soon.

Fraternally,

General Secretary



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Brethren of San Jose Scottish Valley Scottish Rite

I am appealing to you for support if you are able to help. I am Ernie Castillo, one of the charter members of the Santa Clara Valley Daylight Lodge No. 844 (SCVDL). This lodge had it's embryonic development in your Scottish Rite building in San Jose so I am appealing to my Scottish Rite Brothers for help.

Most of the charter members of SCVDL were members of this Valley and had an interest in meeting during the day time. This was primarily due to their being seniors and preferred not to travel at night. We had a great group, most of whom were Past Masters and fine ritualists. For years our officer line was easily filled, however now most of our original members have joined the Supreme Grand Lodge and we are struggling to put together a line of officers.

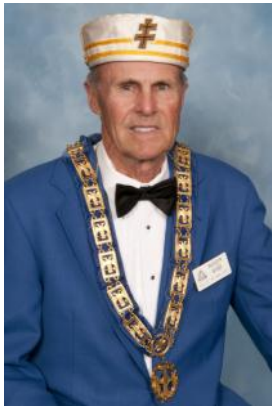
The lodge is in transition and is developing new community activities in order to attract younger and more active members. If any local masons are interesting in going through the line and serving in SCVDL we welcome you. We hold our meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the San Jose Masonic Center. We have lunch and then our meeting. Currently lunch is free to any interested Mason. I can be contacted at: titocastillo@att.net, or telephone, 408-242-8833. Our address is: SJMC, 2500 Masonic Drive, San Jose, 95125-2098.

I appeal for your help. Thank you and God Bless

Ernest Castillo, acting Secretary of SCVDL



From the Master of Kadosh



Brethren,

My article each month this year will most likely be something about the *Consistory* and hope you will find it interesting. The following is an excerpt from the Scottish Rite Ritual used for the Master Craftsman program.

The Consistory of the Masters of the Royal Secret comprises the Thirty-first and Thirty-second Degrees. The word consistory derives from the Latin consistorium, which means "tribunal" and "imperial council." The aptness of this word will become readily apparent.

As with the other degrees of Freemasonry, the consistorial degrees present some of their lessons by borrowing the symbols of other cultures and times.

In the Thirty-first Degree the mythology of the ancient Egyptians is vividly portrayed, as a tribunal or court of the dead is represented. Within its drama, based upon the Egyptian Book of the Dead, a soul seeks to find favor in the eyes of his judges and receive his eternal reward.

The Thirty-second Degree recapitulates the lessons of the Scottish Rite prior to introducing the candidate to the Royal Secret and the Holy Doctrine. The reality of God's intimacy with mankind is reinforced as a fact and truth, and not merely an idealistic notion. The Master of the Royal Secret learns that by self-sacrifice and the application of philosophical truth he may become part of Freemasonry's ideal of a Holy Empire, an the empire of intellect, reason, philosophy and wise morality.

The Master Craftsman Program contains a tremendous amount of knowledge to be absorbed and is very valuable. There are still copies of the program available from the General Secretary. Get one and get started on further Scottish Rite Light.

Fraternally,

Roger Bibb,

Master of Kadosh

From the Clinic!



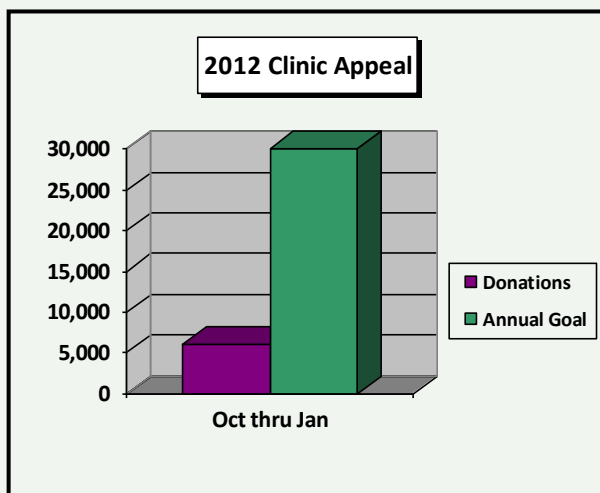
Liam is a sweet four-year old boy who started services at our clinic because he was delayed with his receptive and expressive language, play, and pragmatics skills. His parents brought him to our clinic because they were concerned about his difficulty in expressing himself and carrying on a conversation with others. Liam's expressive language tended to lack complexity. He also had difficulty with producing bilabial sounds, such as "p" and "b" and frequently drooled.

A treatment program that worked on oral motor exercises to strengthen Liam's lips helped to decrease Liam's drooling and to increase lip closure for production of "p" and "b". In addition, therapy focused on expanding Liam's play skills, using more complex expressive language, and following directions of increasing length and complexity.



Liam has now finished treatment at our clinic and his parents are pleased with his progress. "Liam has loved and looked forward to coming each week. He has grown into an articulate and talkative child who doesn't mind being helped/encouraged because of the gentle nature of the support he was given by Ms. Rachel. Everything about our experience here has been positive. The space is clean, the materials are up to date and plentiful, and the staff is timely and dependable... Thank you!"

We will miss Liam and we wish him and his family all the best!



FEBRUARY 2012 Clinic Director's Message

During the month of December we completed 184 treatment hours. A total of 58 children received speech and language services, including six (6) screenings. Two children were discharged. Currently we have a total of 106 children remaining on the waiting list.

We are proud to announce that 161 children received speech and language services in our clinic during the 2011 year, an increase of 62 children as compared to 2010, in part because we resumed conducting screenings. The total number of treatment hours completed from January through December 2011 was 2,727 hours, including 66 screenings. 46 children were discharged from treatment. We are looking forward to another highly productive year in 2012.

We would like to thank everyone for helping the clinic touch the lives of so many families in our community in 2011.

If you would like to assist our clinic by making a financial donation, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the Scottish Rite office or me. If you would prefer to donate therapy materials, I would be happy to provide you with the list of our current needs.

Thanks to each of you for your help and continued support.

Durward C. Ayre, 32° KCCM
Clinic Director



Greg LaFavor

6700 Buggywhip Ct., San Jose, CA 95120

408-268-5847

Don Yeager

702 S. Mary, Sunnyvale, CA 94087-1602

408-720-8069

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Called From Labor...

Bro. Leroy Vernon Jr. 32°

April 2011

Bro. Gordon Reid-Selth 32°

November 2011

Bro. Howard Dysle 32°

August 2011

Bro. Thomas Eagan 32°

January 2012

Happy Valentine's Day



**To all Our "Sweethearts"
and Ladies ! God Bless!**

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.

Scottish Rite is here to assist!

Please feel free to call anytime!

(408) 978-7483

2012 Installation of Officers

All 2012 Officers are properly installed and everyone seemed to have a great time. We were honored to have S.G.I.G. Ill. Bill Stovall, 33⁰ preside as he will be retiring at the end of this year.

The "Arch of Unity" was fun and we had a number of members of our Masonic Family including the Grand Master of Masons in Calif. M.W. Frank Loui and his wife Jeannie were present and introduced.

Ill. Maury Dunbar, 33⁰ retired after having served as our Orator since 1983.



Lodge of Perfection



Council of Kadosh



Consistory



Rose Croix

February 2012 Regional Orient Membership Ambassador Message

When we truly become Masons in our hearts, the concrete wall that separates us from knowledge, understanding and wisdom is broken down. The 4th through 32nd degrees give the Master Mason more insight about the Creator of all the people in the world, the Grand Architect of the Universe. He is the Father of us all, who wants to give us joy, pleasure and happiness. In return He wants us to realize that every day can be a day of new opportunities and fresh beginnings. It is important for us to be builders of our membership and spread the answers to the meaning of life. We should all strive to give new members, the members we currently have and the members whom we need to reinstate, the joy, delight and pleasure of attending regularly, climbing the heavenly ladder and being builders of our Order, just as in ancient days, splendid architecture such as temples, bridges, amphitheatres and aqueducts were built and left as models for the nations of the present day to admire and imitate.

Our Brotherhood, operating in lodges of labor and extending through all lands, built many of the noblest structures of the Middle Ages. When our magnificent Fraternity began, it was a real phenomenon. Freemasonry was, in those days of violence, the ally of religion and assisted the Church to represent, in forms of enduring beauty and grandeur, the sublime hopes of the soul aspiring to God and immortal life. Let us all strive to continue the building of our great Order. It will be a blessing to us and to all whom we recruit, retain and reinstate.

God Bless you all in your dedication and devotion to our work,

Durward C. Ayre 32° KCCH

Regional Orient Membership Ambassador for the Valleys of San Jose and Fresno in California

Personal Message from Angela Athans:

As the time goes by so quickly, I reflect on the years I have been here at Scottish Rite, almost 3 this coming May. This has been like a 2nd home to me. It is filled with so many wonderful members and their wives and significant others. I value everyone who has touched my life in any little or big way. Amazing is all I can say. I have the upmost respect for the masons and truly a better understanding of them and what they stand for. There are many that I have not personally met, but feel close to and thankful for. Mary Lou Johnson was a great teacher. Kathie Runcie will never be forgotten for all she and her husband did for the clinic. Marilyn Schmidt and Bonnie Frohock with all their kind words and encouragement for me. I know and I heard of all these ladies and what they did for the Scottish Rite. I am sure many more I do not know. I just wish to say

"Thank you with all my heart, for your patience and guidance."

Happy New Year and God Bless.

Angela



St. Valentine's Story



Let me introduce myself. My name is Valentine. I lived in Rome during the third century. That was long, long ago! At that time, Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. I didn't like Emperor Claudius, and I wasn't the only one! A lot of people shared my feelings.

Claudius wanted to have a big army. He expected men to volunteer to join. Many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and families. As you might have guessed, not many men signed up. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea. He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. I thought it was preposterous! I certainly wasn't going to support that law!

Did I mention that I was a priest? One of my favorite activities was to marry couples. Even after Emperor Claudius passed his law, I kept on performing marriage ceremonies -- secretly, of course. It was really quite exciting. Imagine a small candlelit room with only the bride and groom and myself.

We would whisper the words of the ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers. One night, we did hear footsteps. It was scary! Thank goodness the couple I was marrying escaped in time. I was caught. (Not quite as light on my feet as I used to be, I guess.) I was thrown in jail and told that my punishment was death.

I tried to stay cheerful. And do you know what? Wonderful things happened. Many young people came to the jail to visit me. They threw flowers and notes up to my window. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit me in the cell. Sometimes we would sit and talk for hours. She helped me to keep my spirits up. She agreed that I did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and going ahead with the secret marriages. On the day I was to die, I left my friend a little note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. I signed it,

"Love from your Valentine."

I believe that note started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day I died, February 14, 269 A.D. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. And when they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh -- because they know that love can't be beaten!

" Stated Meeting & Dinner "Tuesday, February 14th, 2012

Please be sure to call or e-mail your reservations! We need to account for the number of people, with the caterer, 2-3 days in advance!

Thank you!

Regards, Angela Athans

angel66542@aol.com (408) 978-7483

February Menu~Assorted Appetizers* Chicken Sherry -

boneless breast of chicken in a sherry cream sauce

* Rice Pilaf* Green Beans Casserole* Caesar Salad* Dinner Rolls with butter* Dessert

\$15.00 per person - With Reservations.

\$20.00 ~ Without!

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Greg Donnellan

(408)677-9175

From the Lighter Side ...**YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!**

I'm the life of the party..... even if it lasts until 8 p.m.

I'm very good at opening childproof caps.... with a hammer.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.

I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.

I'm beginning to realize that aging is not for wimps.

Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!

Now if I could only remember who sent this to me, I wouldn't send it back to them, but I would send it to many more too! Spread the laughter

Share the cheer Let's be happy While we're here.

PROPOSITION/PETITION

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Location: _____

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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: _____

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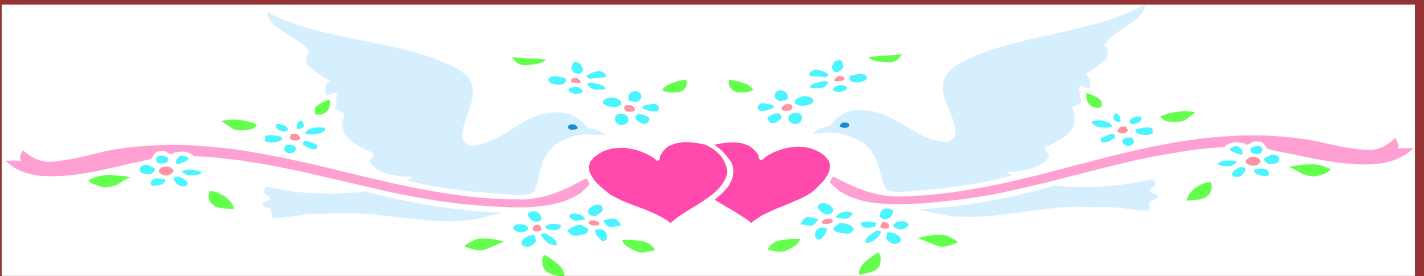
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Future Scottish Rite Events

Tuesday February 14th—Stated Meeting @ 6:00 PM
Dinner @ 6:45 PM—Honor New Master Masons (2011)
Honor Sweethearts (Valentines Day)

Tuesday February 28th - SJSR Foundation Board Meeting @ 5:30 PM

All Officers' Council Meeting following @ 7:00 PM

Tuesday March 13th—Stated Meeting @ 6:00 PM
Dinner @ 6:45 PM—25 & 50 year presentations

April 13, 14 - Spring Reunion

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